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**GREAT FALLS, MONT.**

JUN 24 1919

WASHINGTON

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February 23, 1917.

Dear Mr. Tallman:

Your idea of a "Land Service Bulletin"  
is a splendid one, and I congratulate you. Push  
it hard. I return the copy you sent me.

Cordially yours,

FRANKLIN K. LANE.

Hon. Clay Tallman,  
Commissioner General Land Office,  
Washington, D. C.

A-811114.







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# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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Vol. I.

March 1, 1917.

No. 1.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT.

This little Bulletin will be issued, — monthly, for the present, — for the benefit, primarily, of those in the various branches of the public-land service. It is intended to fill a place not covered by the regular official circulars and decisions, and give information more in the nature of "news" of the service, to the end that the widely separated personnel and departments of our work may be brought into closer touch with each other and with the G. L. O. Aside from a few general officers, doubtless very few in our service have opportunity to acquire any adequate conception of the activities and ramifications of the work of this bureau, nor do we realize the extent to which the various branches of the work of this bureau, and the work of this bureau and others of the Department, are interdependent and coordinated, in order to render economical and efficient service to the public. Then again I apprehend it will be interesting to know what the other fellow is doing and how he is doing it, — how he handles the same problems with which we are confronted. It is thought that information of this character regularly furnished will stimulate our interest and aid us to acquire a fuller understanding and appreciation of the big work we are doing in our endeavor to administer the greatest natural resource in the manner most conducive to the public good. We want and need the help of everybody in the service from Alaska to Florida, and from Secretary Lane down, to make our "Land Service Bulletin" better serve its purpose; while at present it is issued chiefly in the interest of those in our own service, perhaps eventually we can develop it into something of usefulness for the general public as well.





## PERSONAL NOTES.

### Appointments.

Arthur J. Ewing, of Sandpoint, Idaho, Receiver of Public Moneys at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Commission dated January 19, 1917.

John L. Irvin, of Phoenix, Arizona, Register of the Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona. Commission dated January 19, 1917.

James L. Alexander Nutting, of Quincy, California, Register of the Land Office at Susanville, California. Commission dated January 5, 1917.

### General Land Office.

Mr. John D. K. Smoot, of Virginia, copyist (land law clerk). Miss Mary G. McVey, of North Carolina, copyist (stenographer and typewriter). Miss Margaret E. Rauber, of New York, copyist (stenographer and typewriter).

### Surveying Service.

Mr. Eckley C. Guerin, of Oregon, Transitman.

### Field Service.

Mr. Christian S. Dietz, of New York, Mineral Examiner.

### Promotions.

Mr. Robert C. Willis, of North Carolina, succeeds Mr. John W. Keener as Chief of Division "K". A well-earned recognition of special fitness for the duties of the place.

Mr. Dale K. Parrott, of Ohio, from Law Examiner at \$2000 per annum, to Law Clerk at \$2200.

Mr. Michael A. Rattigan, of Rhode Island, Private Secretary to the Commissioner, from \$1800 to Law Examiner at \$2000.

Mr. Edgar Spinks, of Mississippi, from Clerk of Class Four at \$1800 per annum, to Law Examiner at \$2000.

Mr. Willard S. Haynie, of Arkansas, Private Secretary to the Assistant Commissioner, from \$1400 per annum to \$1600.

Mr. J. Harry Byrne, of Massachusetts, from \$1400 to Clerk of Class Three, at \$1600.





## Transfers.

Mr. John P. McDowell, of the Board of Law Review, has recently been transferred to the Office of the Solicitor for the Interior Department. His long service in this office, as well as his experience in the field, especially fits him for the important duties which he will be called upon to discharge in his new position.

Mr. R. W. Pugh, of Division "G", has also been transferred to the same office, where his familiarity with grants to the States in aid of education, and internal improvements, will be of special service.

## Resignations.

The office announces with regret the loss of the services of Mr. John W. Keener, formerly Chief of Division "K", who has resigned to enter the practice of law.

The office extends its good wishes to Mr. Keener for his future success.

Mr. Joseph W. Kingsbury, mineral inspector assigned to the San Francisco Field Division, has accepted a position in the Bureau of Mines with headquarters at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Benjamin F. L. Heron, hearings officer in the Helena Field Division, tendered his resignation in January. Mr. Heron has taken up the practice of law in Montana.

Mr. C. Albert SeLegue, special agent in the Santa Fe Field Division, recently resigned. It is understood that Mr. SeLegue will take up the practice of law in New Mexico.

Mr. H. B. Gerhart has tendered his resignation as a special agent in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Mineral Inspector Myron S. Hibbard, at his own request, has been transferred from the Field Service to a position in the local land office at Glasgow, Montana, thereby concluding a service of nearly seven years as a mineral inspector in the Field Service.

Mr. Cary A. Marshall, upon his own application, has been transferred from the position of special agent to a clerkship in the local land office at Pueblo, Colorado.

Mr. James Spofford, U. S. Surveyor of the District of Idaho, has resigned to take up private engineering work in connection with the irrigation system in southern Idaho.





## NEW LEGISLATION.

### Stock Raising Homesteads.

By this time the general provisions of the act of December 29, 1916, providing for stock raising homesteads, are pretty well understood, within the service, and the very full instructions issued January 27, 1917, have doubtless served to inform the interested public equally well.

The passage of this act is, in many respects, a direct matter of congratulation for the Interior Department, which made a persistent effort to secure legislation which it believed would operate to the highest development of lands neither adapted to ordinary agricultural purposes, nor even to combined crop raising and stock grazing uses, but only fit for the pasturage of stock.

The general desire to take advantage of the act will be understood, when it is stated that up to February 21st, 36,602 applications for the right of entry thereunder, embracing an acreage of 15,355,000 acres had been filed.

### Stock Driveways.

The Secretary has directed the Commissioner of the General Land Office to consider all applications or suggestions for the location and withdrawal of stock driveways under Section 10 of the Stock Raising homestead act, have the necessary field investigations made, and submit report and recommendation thereon. The other bureaus of the Department are to furnish information and assistance where available and needed. The Forest Service will cooperate and place information obtained in connection with the grazing situation in the National Forests, or otherwise, at the disposal of this office.

Numerous petitions from stock associations, stockmen and others for stock driveway withdrawals have been received involving lands in Colorado, Idaho, eastern Oregon, New Mexico, and Wyoming, followed in many instances by protests against the proposed driveways from residents and prospective 640-acre homesteaders. In the majority of instances the driveways requested connect with national forests.

The proper location of such driveways as are contemplated by the act is of great importance not only to the stockmen who would be benefited but to the settlers and other residents. It is therefore proposed to consider the stock driveway necessities in the range states and other problems connected therewith as a whole. To this end the proper Field Divisions will be furnished in the near future with state maps showing the location of the driveways applied for and those recommended by the Forest Service together with all public water reserves. In this manner it is believed that the driveways found advisable may be withdrawn before the general classification under the act is effected.

### Land Locators.

The recent act of Congress "To punish persons who make false representations to settlers and others pertaining to the public lands of the United States"





gives the General Land Office an effective weapon for dealing with a class of persons who have for many years preyed upon intending settlers. This act makes it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$300 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or by both, for any person who, for a reward paid or promised to him in that behalf, shall undertake to locate for an intending purchaser, settler or entryman any public lands of the United States subject to disposition under the public land laws and wilfully and with intent to deceive falsely represents that any tract of land shown to the intending settler is public land or of a certain description.

We are glad to say that the Government can now, by prosecutions under this new law, protect settlers against dishonest land locators.

### Second Homestead Rights.

The act approved February 20, 1917, grants a second homestead right to those entrymen who perfected title under their first entries, and paid for the land at the rate of \$4.00, or more, per acre. It is estimated that this act will affect approximately 10,000 persons.

### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

#### Restorations and Withdrawals.

During the month of February, 1917, 7,701.61 acres of lands were restored to entry under the Act of June 11, 1906, within the limits of National Forests.

On January 24, 1917, about 16,000 acres of land in the North Platte Irrigation project, Nebraska-Wyoming, Alliance and Cheyenne Land District, were released from reclamation withdrawal and will become subject to settlement March 26th, and to entry April 25, 1917.

A public notice was issued February 8, 1917, announcing the availability of a water supply for the irrigation of land in Townships 4 and 5 North, of Ranges 24, 25 and 28 East, in the Umatilla irrigation project, Oregon. A drawing for the farm units shown on the farm unit plats of these townships will be held March 6, 1917, at the land offices at The Dalles and La Grande, Oregon.

February 5, 1917, the Department withdrew under the second form of withdrawal under the reclamation act, approximately 175,000 acres in connection with the Yakima irrigation project, Washington, in Townships 10 to 15 North, Ranges 16 to 25 East, North Yakima land district.

#### Map Work.

A new map of Alaska, scale 40 miles to an inch, has been completed, and will issue on or before May 1st.





Also a map of Iowa (last issue in 1885) will be issued about April 1st.

Map of Montana is nearing completion, and probably will issue about July 1st.

The 1917 edition of the United States map has been printed, and is now being mounted by contractors, and deliveries will be made, beginning about March 20th.

Copies of public-land State maps may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, at a cost of 25 cents each, and the United States map at \$1.00 per copy.

Photolithographic copies of township plats, if available, may be obtained from this office at a cost of 25 cents each uncertified, or 50 cents each if certified.

The following maps are in course of preparation for reproduction: Montana, Washington, Arizona, South Dakota and Oregon.

#### Irrigation Projects.

On January 30, 1917, the office took action on the Klickitat Irrigation and Power Company (Horse Heaven Irrigation District), a system proposing the reclamation of approximately 500,000 acres of land in the State of Washington, including about 50,000 acres of desert land entries. The action proposes the granting of relief under the act of March 4, 1915 (38 Stat., 1161), on the entries coming within the purview of that act and clears the way for the consideration of more than 200 entries, some of which were made as early as 1904.

#### Oil Contracts.

Under the act of August 25, 1914 (38 Stat., 708), the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into agreements with applicants for mineral patent for lands withdrawn as oil pending disposition of the application for patent. Since this act has been operative 33 contracts have been entered into for lands in California, embracing an area of 1,630 acres, and 18 contracts for lands in Wyoming, covering 1,887 acres. On January 1, 1917, there was in escrow under the terms of these contracts \$640,190.67. In most cases the amount deposited in escrow is 1/8 of the gross proceeds, while in others all of the proceeds, excepting a specified sum allowed for operating expenses, are impounded.

#### Public Land Surveys.

The Surveying Division reports that during the month of January, 1917, it accepted and placed of record surveys and resurveys amounting to 675,000 acres, which is equivalent to running, measuring and marking 2,100 miles of lines in the field.





## OREGON AND CALIFORNIA LANDS.

### Classification.

One of the big jobs tackled by the field service during the past season was the classification of the lands within the former Oregon and California Railway grant in Oregon, revested in the United States by the act of June 9, 1916, which the Secretary of the Interior was directed to make. There were nearly 2,000,000 acres of surveyed lands outside of national forests which it was necessary to classify as provided in the act. To carry on this work a force of about 40 temporary timber cruisers was employed.

A little more than one-half the area to be classified was covered during the past field season, the work progressing to the northward up to the southern boundary of Lane County, the cost of classification averaging about 7 cents per acre. The number of reports submitted as the result of the field season's work is about 25,000, each report covering a forty-acre tract.

### Payment of Taxes.

By the same act provision is made for the payment of the taxes accrued and unpaid on the lands revested in the limited status; and as the company had paid no taxes for the years 1913, 1914 & 1915, the ascertainment of the taxes legally due was a task of no little magnitude.

Hon. Oswald West, former Governor of Oregon, as a representative of this office, has been charged with the duty of procuring from the several counties schedules and lists of the taxes assessed against the company, and has pushed the work with all diligence. The last schedule has been forwarded to this office, and we are now engaged in the preparation of tax statements for submission to the Attorney General, to the end that the Department will be ready to pay the taxes at the earliest practicable date.

## IMPORTANT DECISIONS.

### Soldiers' Additional Homestead Rights.

An important ruling was made by Secretary Lane on February 15, 1917, in construing the provisions of Sections 2306 and 2307, U. S. R. S., relating to soldiers' additional homestead rights. After fully discussing the intent of Congress as expressed in said sections, and the decisions theretofore rendered by the Department thereunder, it was held that such rights may be used:

(1) By the soldier in his lifetime either directly by entering the land or indirectly, in his lifetime, by conveying his right to entry to an assignee; or (2) similarly, by the widow, while her status as widow of the soldier continued; or (3) similarly, in the absence of appropriation by the soldier or his widow, by the minor orphan children, during their minority, acting through their lawful guardian.





Said ruling is not, however, to be given a retroactive effect, and therefore rights which were actually sold and the transactions wholly completed and formally consummated by actual delivery of the written assignment prior to February 15, 1917, will be adjudicated as formerly. But no right assigned, otherwise than as stated above, after that date will be recognized.

#### Forest Homesteads.

The Secretary of the Interior holds that, upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, tracts may be listed and restored under the act of June 11, 1906, as entry units; that is, entry will not be allowed for a portion only of the tract restored. This is intended to operate only in those cases where public interests demand such procedure.

#### AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Mr. George A. Parks, mineral inspector on duty in Alaska, spent several weeks about the first of the year at the General Land Office on official business. He is enthusiastic over the possibilities of Alaska, and expressed an eagerness to get back among the "sourdoughs".

A. D. Kidder, Supervisor of Surveys, has returned from the Ferry Lake, Louisiana, oil fields, where, with two surveying parties, he has been engaged in segregating the lands, about 600 acres, claimed by the United States as public lands, situated between the meander lines of the old surveys and the true meander lines as found by recent surveys.

Mr. Sam Houston Carr, of Division "K", is giving a series of very interesting lectures on the public land laws, to a class composed of employees of this office.

#### KEENER'S PUBLIC LAND STATUTES.

The compilation of public land laws by J. W. Keener did not come any too soon. It was a job that had been awaiting some man of nerve and qualification for a long time; Keener had both, and did a good piece of work. It is a great time saver in any active field of land inquiry. He has compiled and issued a supplement covering the land laws enacted during the first session of the 64th Congress, including also the stock raising homestead of the present session.

#### TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local office and field service employees. If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin."





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

April 1, 1917.

No. 2.

## WHERE WE STAND.

Opposite page 116 of the Commissioner's Annual Report for the year ending June 30, 1916, will be found the G. L. O. Consolidated Work Report for the fiscal year, same being a summary of similar monthly reports. These reports have been worked out for the purpose of determining the condition of the work in the office at all times. The upper portion of the consolidated report represents that part of the work ordinarily counted as "cases," as units of measurement, whereas the lower portion represents that part of the work which can only be considered with any degree of accuracy on an acreage basis. Due allowance is made for duplications and cases referred, so that while the same "case" may be referred and action taken thereon by several different divisions, the total work pending "for office action" or "action elsewhere" is intended to represent the actual number without duplication. Pending "for office action" means that the case is awaiting some action in the G. L. O., and until such action is taken, represents arrears in this office; pending "for action elsewhere," means that it is the other fellow's next move, e. g., to the Survey for report, to the Field Service for investigation, or to the local office for calling on the applicant or entryman. It will be noted that the "units" pending for office action were reduced by over 7,600 during the fiscal year, yet there were over 38,000 left, and the work counted on the basis of acreage was reduced nearly a million but with nearly four millions left. Stated in more understandable terms, these figures mean that the office is running from two to six months behind, the greatest arrearage probably being in the examination of surveys, in which work during the last two years, more accepted surveys have been turned out than for a number of years; nevertheless, owing to the large amount turned in by the Field Surveying Service, it has been impossible to catch up. The office is not responsible for much of the arrearage in acting on State selections, for the reason that that work in a number of States is suspended owing to the controversy that has arisen relative to the





construction of the Act of 1891, relative to base lands in forest reserves for State indemnity selections. While up to the time of the Grazing Homestead Act conditions were constantly improving, yet the office was nevertheless farther behind than it should be for the best results. Now we have the Grazing Homestead Act with its over 45,000 applications, covering over seventeen million acres, with its train of complications in the way of designations and various kinds of additions and exchanges--without any extra help.

Recently a similar system of reports has been inaugurated for Surveyors General and local offices. The former gets down to a cost basis and is disclosing some interesting things; moreover, some very marked improvement has been brought about as a result of close examination into the matter of where we stood. While there is heavy arrearage in two or three of the Offices of Surveyors General, the condition of the work in these offices, and particularly with respect to cooperation with the Field Surveying Service, has been vastly improved during the last three years. A rather careful inquiry about three and a half years ago indicated that from the time a survey was applied for to the time the proof plat was filed in the local office, required from three years up, while now this period on the average runs from two years down. Three years ago there were over ten million acres remaining of unsurveyed lands in railroad land grant limits; we now have that practically all cleaned up as to field work.

When "M" (Accounts) was called on, however, for a consolidated report of the reports from local offices, the answer came back: "It can't be done, for no two are alike." Further explanation and samples have been sent out and it is hoped that we will soon get this work standardized the same as the schedules and returns, so that we may tell at a glance where each office stands. The local offices, by the way, have been worked to the limit during recent months under the Grazing Act. Provision was made in the appropriation bills, which failed to pass last session, to meet this situation. We were compelled to put on some 40 or 50 extra temporary clerks, as a result of which the current appropriation is now overdrawn, and if Congress shortly after its convening on April 2nd, does not come to our relief, there will necessarily have to be some "ruthless" treatment of the clerks on the local office rolls.

The system of reporting for the Field Service and Surveying Service, is satisfactory enough and has been for a long time; moreover, these reports show altogether too clearly for comfort that the work of the Field Service is falling behind, notwithstanding the output keeps up. The long drawn out oil land controversy, together with the field examination of all desert applications and many applications for relief, in addition to the regular run of cases, big and little, has made a heavy load.

These very brief observations indicate that 1917-18 confronts us with increased work all along the line. There is no room for anybody to be "asleep at the switch", and we must overlook no opportunity to work out improved methods and efficiency.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

- General Land Office.- Stanley W. Fenn, of New York, copyist.  
Miss Mary E. Murphy, of Massachusetts, copyist.
- Surveying Service.- Eckley C. Guerin, of Oregon, transitman, and assigned to the District of Alaska, where he has been temporarily employed for several years.
- Milton G. Devitt, clerk-draftsman, office Supervisor of Surveys, Denver, Colorado.
- Local Office.- Miss Stella M. Templeman, stenographer and typewriter in the land office at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
- Thomas W. Lawson, clerk in the land office at Pueblo, Colorado.
- Field Service.- Joseph H. Price, of Nevada, and Samuel Powell, Jr., of Illinois, temporary Mineral Examiners at \$1320 per annum, assigned to the Santa Fe Field Division, New Mexico.
- Christian S. Dietz, of New York, Mineral Examiner at \$1320 per annum, assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division, Wyoming.
- Miss Lily C. M. Underwood, of Wyoming, stenographer and typewriter, at \$900 per annum, office of Chief of Field Division, Cheyenne, Wyoming.
- Frank A. Wegner, of California, Timber Cruiser at \$1200 per annum, assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division, Wyoming.

### Promotions.

- General Land Office.- Harry L. Underwood, of New York, to Law Examiner at \$2200.
- Frank S. Hemmick, of the District of Columbia, William H. Crague, of Nevada, and Abner F. Dunnington, of Colorado, to clerks of Class Four at \$1800.
- George A. Jolliffe, of Washington, to Law Examiner at \$1600.





Charles W. Flora, of Kansas, Clarence G. Fisher, of New York, and Horace L. Wilcox, of Pennsylvania, to clerks of Class Three at \$1600.

William W. Cohan, of Mississippi, Christopher C. Mullady, of New York, and Ivan V. Gross, of Pennsylvania, to clerks of Class Two at \$1400.

Miss Donna M. Davis, of Ohio, Alfred Dresser, of Minnesota, and Clement R. Goo On, of Hawaii, to clerks of Class One at \$1200.

Harry D. Moulton, of New Mexico, to Assistant Attorney at \$1200.

Fred L. Van Dolsen of Indiana, and Miss Norene M. Kavanaugh, of Missouri, to clerks at \$1000.

Miss Helen Logan, of Missouri, to copyist at \$900.

Surveyors General.-

Oregon: Courtenay B. Harris of California, to \$1320; Joseph A. Ganong, of Oregon, to \$1620; Miss Ura A. Casey, of Idaho, to \$1140.

Mrs. Kate G. Organ, of Wyoming, to \$1080.

Thomas L. Darby, of Colorado, to \$4.50 per diem.

Resignations.

Local Office.-

Bruce B. Hudgings, Register of the Land Office at Harrison, Arkansas, effective March 4, 1917.

Marcus C. Leh, clerk, Land Office, Montrose, Colorado, effective March 12, 1917.

James McMillan, chief clerk, Land Office, Miles City, Montana, effective February 28, 1917.

Charles R. Giddings, chief clerk, Land Office, Billings, Montana, effective February 28, 1917.

Albert C. Kehoe, stenographer and typewriter, Land Office, Coeur d'Alone, Idaho, effective February 28, 1917.

Roy A. Payton, stenographer and typewriter, Land Office, Pueblo, Colorado, effective February 15, 1917.





Joseph T. Carney, land law clerk, Land Office, Boise, Idaho, effective February 15, 1917.

Hudda H. Neal, clerk, Land Office, Crookston, Minnesota, effective March 12, 1917. Mr. Neal was formerly employed in Division "O" of this office.

Field Service.-

Amos O. White, of California, Special Agent, effective March 11, 1917.

Hon. Oswald West, of Portland, Oregon, charged with the duty of assembling the tax claims of the several Counties in Oregon, traversed by the Oregon and California Railroad grant, having completed the work, has tendered his resignation, which was accepted to take effect March 15, 1917.

Surveyors General.-

Irving W. Stoddard, draftsman, office Washington, effective March 15, 1917.

Transfers.

General Land Office.- Miss Lenore L. Stites, of California, from the office of the Secretary.

Miss Edyth M. Custer, of Pennsylvania, from this office to the office of the Secretary.

Surveying Service.-

Frank E. Wilmont, of California, from the Philippine Service to Transitman, this office.

Norvell E. Hesla, from the office of the Surveyor General of Oregon, to the War Department.

Local Office.-

Cary A. Marshall, of the District of Columbia, from Special Agent to Land Law Clerk in the Land Office at Pueblo, Colorado.

McKinley W. Kreigh, of Kansas, from the Interstate Commerce Commission to the Land Office at Blackfoot, Idaho.

Field Service.-

Frederick M. Nestler, from this office to Special Agent.

Roscoe C. Bangs, from the Office of Indian Affairs to Special Agent, and assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division, Wyoming.





## OBITUARY.

Mineral Inspector D. R. Thompson, who has for some time been on oil investigations in connection with Ferry Lake, Louisiana, in the Jackson, Mississippi, Field Division, was recently called to Salt Lake City, Utah, on account of the sudden death of his father. We desire to extend to Mr. Thompson and the family our sincere sympathy.

With deep regret we announce the death of Miss Norrine L. Barnes, formerly a stenographer and typewriter in this office and recently transferred to the office of the Chief of Field Division, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends.

Mr. William O'Neil, Superintendent of Logging, ceded Chippewa lands, Minnesota, died on March 3rd, last. Mr. O'Neil occupied said position since September 1, 1903, and had supervision of all logging operation under the act of June 27, 1902 (32 Stat., 400). During his incumbency over 1,260,000,000 feet were cut, for which over \$8,934,000 were paid. He was a most reliable, capable official, and his death was greatly regretted.

## RETURN FROM MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE.

Capt. Alvin D. Hathaway, commanding Co. F, 3rd D. C. Infantry, who answered the order of the President of June 18, 1916, calling the National Guard into the Mexican border service, has recently been mustered out of the Federal service, with his regiment, and has returned to his duties as law examiner in the General Land Office.

Others who returned with the 3rd D. C. Infantry are Sergt. Francis J. Connelly, who has also returned to his duties in the General Land Office, and First Class Private Samuel G. Hamilton, of Co. F, who, though formerly in the General Land Office, has recently accepted a position in the Department of Justice.

Corporal Joseph P. Browne returned to his duties in this office February 26, 1917. Corporal Browne is a member of Battery B, District of Columbia Field Artillery; he enlisted on June 19, 1916, and was promoted to corporal on January 4, 1917.

Mr. Joseph A. Shafer, of Co. M, 3rd D. C. Infantry, returned to his duties in this office March 15, 1917. Mr. Shafer was mustered in the Federal service on June 28, 1916, and was mustered out on March 12, 1917.





## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Mr. S. W. Goodale, Law Examiner and Inspector of Offices of Surveyors General, called here for consultation on matters pertaining to the conduct of the Surveyor General's Offices in the west, returned to his duties on March 18th.

Supervisor of Surveys Frank M. Johnson has returned to his headquarters in Denver to inaugurate surveying operations for the 1917 season. Indications point to a very busy summer.

Dr. Harry S. Reger, specialist, now of Jamestown, New York, called on his friends in the office while visiting in Washington. Dr. Reger was formerly private secretary to Assistant Commissioner Fimple in 1905.

Special Agent Josiah A. Moore, recently transferred from the Field Division, Juneau, Alaska, to Jackson, Mississippi, Field Division, where he was employed for a short time upon court cases pertaining to that Field Division, was, on March 9, 1917, transferred to the Portland, Oregon, Field Division. He left Washington for his new post of duty on the 10th instant.

The office, and especially Division "C", rejoices in the return to duty of genial Bernard McGarvey, after an absence of nearly two months, on account of illness.

## THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

The members of the General Land Office who took part in the dramatization of the "Continental Congress," which was staged by Interior Department talent during Inauguration week, all presented their respective parts in such a manner as to win signal honors not alone for themselves, but also for the office. Mr. Lloyd T. Everett took the part of George Walton; Mr. Harry L. Kays impersonated Samuel Adams, and Mr. William J. McGee, Robert Morris, while Mr. Mauchlin Niven was an ideal George Washington. This office feels a pardonable pride in the success which crowned the efforts of its representatives in this patriotic drama.

## NEW LEGISLATION.

### Fort Peck Indian Lands.

On the second of March the President approved a bill for extension of time for payment of the instalments of the price of the ceded Fort Peck lands in Montana, which was passed on the idea that "a half loaf is better than no bread at all." It provides for extension of only one-half





of each instalment; this provision, and those regarding interest payments, bid fair to make it one of the most complicated of the extension acts so far passed.

#### Buffalo Pasture.

A private act recently approved, which is of slight importance as a matter of public land law, but which is of considerable interest in other respects, is that providing for a ten-year extension of the Buffalo Pasture lease granted July 1, 1907, to James Philip, for some 1600 acres in South Dakota, near the Missouri River. His heirs have a buffalo herd on the place numbering several hundred, and the project seems to be a great success, except for the fact that the war shut off all demand for the animals by European parks and zoos.

#### Umatilla Lands.

The act of February 17, 1917, is identical in its terms with that of February 11, 1913 (37 Stat., 655), except that its provisions are now extended to all entries heretofore or hereafter made. Proofs may be submitted only after publication and posting of notice, as in ordinary homestead cases. If the regularly introduced testimony shows that a tract is not susceptible of cultivation or residence and is exclusively grazing land, incapable of any profitable use other than for grazing purposes, the entryman is, by the act, relieved of the requirement of residence. Moreover, such proof entitles him to issuance of final certificate, upon payment of the unpaid instalments of the price, and it is not necessary to show that the land has been actually used for grazing purposes.

Section 2 of the act allows submission of proof by one of the heirs, or by the executor or administrator of the estate of the entryman, if he be dead. However, the certificate is to be issued in favor of the heirs. The executor or administrator, offering proof, must produce record evidence of his appointment and qualification as such.

#### Reclamation Homesteads.

An Act of Congress was approved February 15, 1917, Public No. 322, 64th Congress, amending section one of the Act of August 9, 1912 (37 Stat., 265), relating to the issuance of patents on reclamation entries. The amendatory act provides that patents may issue on reclamation entries if all water-right charges were paid at the time of submission of proof of reclamation, although subsequent charges may become due and be unpaid prior to the issuance of patent.

#### FORESIGHT AND HINDSIGHT.

It was just half a century ago that Secretary Seward bargained for the purchase of Alaska for \$7,200,000. Congress begrudged the money; since then it has produced over a billion, now has an annual commerce of





eighty millions, and its development has only commenced. Its future possibilities are filled with promise; therein the Land Service will play an important part.

#### WILD BIRDS IN THE DISTRICT.

On the evening of March 7, 1917, at the Home Club, Mr. Frank Bond, our Chief Clerk, gave a very interesting and instructive exhibition of lantern slides of about twenty-five of the forty species of native wild birds of the District.

His remarks were directed chiefly to explaining specific and sex differences in coloration, and the habits of the different species as observed by him in the immediate vicinity of his home, and particularly in connection with the "lunch counter" which he keeps supplied from day to day. The talk was illustrated with lantern slides of twenty-five species, these being all that he has yet been able to reach; but what the exhibition lacked in numbers of species was made up by series embracing two to six slides in the case of a single species, which were particularly interesting to bird lovers.

The photographs were taken from a window shelf especially made to accommodate his large camera, the "lunch counter" being just outside the window about eight feet distant; all the photographs, therefore, were taken from inside the house, and the birds observed but not photographed, through the glass, the shade partly drawn. Sometimes four photographs would be taken before the bird had satisfied his hunger or for other reasons had flown away. The negatives were then developed and positives for lantern slides made by contact exposure, the coloring thereon being done with the best transparent colors especially made for lantern slide work, from the skins of the species in hand.

Something over one hundred slides were shown, averaging between two and six slides for each species thrown on the screen.

#### DESERT LANDERS PLANT POTATOES.

Since the passage of the Act of March 4, 1915, more than four thousand applications for relief of desert-land entry claimants have been favorably considered. About two hundred have been finally turned down, and about one hundred and fifty claims have been finally adjudicated and patents issued. Remember that no law is violated, if, having obtained relief, one has the right to the use of, and does use sufficient water to take care of a garden, a patch of spuds, or a few acres of alfalfa. This law was passed for the benefit of desert-land claimants. Tell the entrymen to make the land produce something of value, if they can.





## DIAGRAMS AND PLATS.

In prosecuting a case either by correspondence, or in conference, involving an intricate condition of survey, a diagram or plat graphically illustrating the same, will always present a better understanding of the case. For this purpose the drafting division is always ready to lend its assistance.

## FAMILY LETTERS.

From Minnesota.

My Dear Bulletin:

I was awfully glad to find you on my desk in this office today. You looked just like a long, long delayed letter from home. You are interesting, entertaining and most instructive from cover to cover, and will be filed and with all succeeding issues carefully preserved. We have all seemed so apart from each other that our relationship, instead of being cordial and friendly as befits those of a common labor and kindred interest, has sometimes appeared almost strained, weird and uncanny. We are all human, and like the atmosphere of human fellowship while not afraid of discipline or responsibility. There are a lot of things not "writ down" in official record that may be made of greatest value to public service. I welcome you, and will look for succeeding issues with keenest interest.

From Colorado:

I must offer my congratulations and felicitations over No. 1, Volume 1, of the "Land Service Bulletin". It fills a "long-felt want". It contained especially pleasing news, too, in the notice on pages 4 and 5 that the Act of Congress "To punish persons who made false representations to settlers and others pertaining to the public lands of the United States" had been passed. This is the first news that we in the field have had that the days of the fake land locators are numbered.

Best wishes for your further success.

From Oregon:

I have just read, with a great deal of interest, Vol. 1, No. 1, of "The Land Service Bulletin", and believe the issuance of this publication each month will fill a "long felt want".

If two or three pages can be devoted to an exchange of ideas of the employees in the land service, I believe it will prove even more popular.

For instance, and as Question No. 1, I would like to know what system is used by other Registrars in keeping tab on the business, in order to make out a comprehensive and reliable work report at the end of each month. I find it hard to without "guessing".





I wish you success for the "Bulletin", for the good of the service.

From New Mexico:

We are just in receipt of one copy of No. 1, Vol. 1, "Land Service Bulletin" and same has been posted on our bulletin board.

### CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

The result of the recent Civil Service Examination for U. S. Surveyor will be known in the course of the next thirty days. One hundred and ten persons competed in this examination held on January 17-18.

Ninety-nine candidates for the position of Land Law Clerk took the Civil Service Examination February 7th and 8th. Report as to the result will be announced within the next ten days.

### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

#### Scrip Location.

In a recent decision by the Commissioner it was held that subsequent purchasers of an excess portion of Valentine Scrip for less than 40 acres, take with notice that a prior holder has elected to locate fractional subdivisions in satisfaction of the scrip and that if the location of a 40-acre certificate on a fractional subdivision contained less than 20 acres, the excess could not be located on an unsurveyed tract which according to the regular surveys would contain 40 acres. The Commissioner applied the principle stated in the case of Louis G. Triebel (41 L. D., 391), and held that the certificate could not be used in making separate locations and invoking the rule of approximation so as to secure a greater area of land in the aggregate than could be secured by embracing the subdivisions in one location.

#### Change in Method of Restoration.

Owing to difficulties experienced in determining priority in conflicting settlement claims where lands have been restored to settlement in advance of entry under the former practice, a new form of restoration has been approved by this office under which homestead entrymen will have a preference over settlers and other applicants. Under such form, homestead applications for the lands to be restored may be presented within the period of 20 days prior to the date of restoration and such applications, together with homestead applications presented at the hour of restoration, will be considered as filed simultaneously, and have priority over rights asserted by settlement and other applications; conflicts to be determined by a drawing.





## Alaska Townsites.

Lands have been withdrawn for 31 townsites along the Government railroad in Alaska under the act of March 12, 1914 (38 Stat., 305). Anchorage and its east and south additions at Ship Creek on Knik Arm have been surveyed into lots and three public sales held resulting in the disposal of 1946 lots for \$389,125.10. The Federal and Cliff additions to the town of Seward, at the head of Resurrection Bay, have been surveyed, and 115 lots therein were sold in September, 1916, for \$26,630.00. Matanuska, on the Matanuska River, was surveyed into lots in 1916, and in July of that year a few lots were sold for \$8,930.00. The townsite of Nenana, at the junction of Tenana and Nenana Rivers, was surveyed and in August, 1916, 354 lots were sold for \$132,525.00.

During the months of February and March, five tracts have been withdrawn for townsite purposes along the Government railroad in Alaska. A tract has also been withdrawn for a Naval Radio Station at the head of Resurrection Bay near Seward.

## Desert Land Entries.

As the result of the field investigation made in June and July, 1916, by an engineer of the Geological Survey, a mineral inspector of the Denver Field Division and a representative of this office, practically all of the desert land entries in the San Luis Valley, Del Norte, Colorado, land district, have received the consideration of the office and action has been taken. As a result of the facts ascertained by the field examiners, it was decided that relief under the act of March 4, 1915 (38 Stat., 1161), was the proper action where the desert land entrymen relied solely upon artesian or underground waters for the reclamation of their lands. Within the past few months more than 150 cases have been considered.

## Survey of Indian Lands.

The largest single group of surveys for some years to be undertaken in the unorganized Surveying districts, is now being arranged for under the supervision of Supervisor A. D. Kidder. It is the survey of allotments to Indians on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota, and the expense is estimated at \$50,000. Several parties will be working simultaneously on this group.

## Meander of Red River in Oklahoma.

The General Land Office will undertake next summer the re-meandering of the north bank of Red River in Oklahoma west of the 98th meridian in order to admit of the proper disposition of lands in the former Kiowa and Comanche Reservations which border on the river. The boundary lines of lots formed by the subdivisional surveys of 40 years ago have been materially changed by erosion, and in some cases purchasers of land from the Government have not been able to find any land remaining.





### Motorcycle in Field Work.

That the use of a motorcycle by the field force of this office will cut down very materially transportation expenses is very pointedly illustrated by the recent experience of two special agents in the Santa Fe Field Division. These two agents used a motorcycle for four days on joint investigation work at the total cost of \$1.95, practically all of this being for gasoline. Based upon the mileage accomplished, the cost per mile amounted to about one-half cent per agent. This is cheaper than railroad transportation, and much less expensive than automobile hire at \$10.00 or more per day. Let us hear from the other field divisions using motorcycles and see if they can equal this record.

### Motorboat for Alaska Service.

It is proposed to insert an item in the Sundry Civil Bill for the fiscal year 1918, authorizing the purchase or construction of a motorboat for the use of agents operating in Alaska. During the open season in that territory, the agents are compelled to cover a vast extent of country. The only feasible mode of travel at this time of the year is by the Yukon River, and its tributaries, which are navigable for ordinary river boats for about 4,000 or 5,000 miles. At the present time, the agents depend entirely on the ordinary scheduled boats to transport them from one point to another. This, in addition to being a very expensive means of travel, also results many times in delaying the agents while they are waiting at given points for the arrival of the regular boats. With a motorboat available for use at all times during the open seasons, the agents will be able to cover a greater amount of territory, conduct investigations more expeditiously, and with great saving in transportation expense.

### Forest Homesteads.

During the month of March, 1917, 14,772.71 acres of land were restored to entry under the Act of June 11, 1906, within the limits of National Forests.

### Chippewa Timber Logging.

On February 7, 1917, the Department accepted the highest bids for 2,230,000 feet of timber on ceded Chippewa lands, Minnesota, for which the purchasers agreed to pay \$13,030.19. This is the ninth sale under the Act of June 27, 1902 (32 Stat., 400), under which there have been sold about 2,250,000,000 feet, for which nearly \$10,000,000 will be realized.

### Town Lot Sales.

Sales of town lots in the following Indian reservations have recently been held with the results indicated; Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota; Parshall, 60 lots sold for \$8,241.00; Van Hook, 23 lots sold for \$2,465.00; Sanish, 257 lots sold for \$44,730.00; Spokane Indian Reservation; Klaxton, 73 lots sold for \$1,587.00.





## The Field Service.

As indicating the work which has been done during the calendar year of 1916 by the field service force, it is noted that in that time there have been 18,687 cases investigated and closed; the average number of agents employed was 107, and when it is taken into consideration that many of the investigations involved difficult and complicated questions relating to irrigation or mining engineering, this is a very creditable showing and speaks well for the efficiency of our field force.

### TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

May 1, 1917.

No. 3.

## THE GREATEST NEED.

Since the last issue our country has entered into the Great World War. No effort was spared to keep out; finally it became clear that we must either break with Germany or suffer the unlawful destruction of American lives and the utter disregard of American rights with the consequent humiliation and dishonor. The masterly message of the President defined the issue and set forth our purposes in harmony with the highest American ideals and traditions. That message has electrified all nations and all peoples; it has heartened the millions on the Allies' firing lines in Europe and has put new hope into the forces that are fighting the age-old fight for democracy, freedom and permanent peace, the world over. The weight of America is now thrown into the balance; much is expected of us. We must not be found wanting in courage, energy or willingness to sacrifice, for it may be that the perpetuity of the institutions and principles for which we as a nation stand and which we cherish most, depends on what we are able to contribute in the conflict.

Manifestly we should do those things which we can do best and quickest to meet the immediate needs of the countries which have now become our allies, -- to strengthen the weakest points in the common line of defense. All authorities agree that the most urgent and pressing immediate need is food. Mr. Herbert C. Hoover is quoted in recent Associated Press dispatches to the effect that we must more than double our present surplus for export, to do which it is clear that we must effect a marked decrease in consumption and waste and a heavy increase in production, else we fail to do our part. The Secretary of Agriculture has warned the South that it must feed itself or go hungry. It is said the South imports over half a billion dollars worth of food-stuffs annually, and has some seventy million acres of cut-over lands that are not working. This all means that every acre capable of producing a crop this year should





be planted this spring. Doubtless some new lands can be brought in, particularly considerable areas on Government and private irrigation projects for which water is available, which have not been brought under cultivation, also some areas that were withdrawn for irrigation purposes but have not yet been reclaimed; but we apprehend that the greatest immediate increase can be effected by farming all existing cultivable areas up to the very limit. So let us urge on every hand the production of more and bigger food crops and the prevention of waste, and if in the administration of the public land laws we can in any way contribute to this end, let us make every proper effort in that direction.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

General Land Office.- Miss Alice M. McLaughlin, of Massachusetts, Mrs. Goldie G. Miller, of New York, and Harmon L. Broomall, of Delaware, copyists at \$720.

Walter S. Poole, of New Jersey, Robert E. McKinstry, of Missouri, and John E. Graham, of Iowa, skilled laborers at \$660.

Local Office.- John Lawrence Clendenin, of Arkansas, Register of the Land Office at Harrison, Arkansas. Entered on duty April 6, 1917. Vice Bruce B. Hudgins, resigned.

Walter Leak Snapp, of Arkansas, Receiver of Public Moneys at Harrison, Arkansas. Commission dated March 16, 1917. Vice William F. Eatman, term expired.

Miss Felice Cohn, of Nevada, land law clerk at \$1440 per annum, land office at Helena, Montana.

Field Service.- Noal F. Caywood, of Washington, timber cruiser at \$1200; assigned to the Helena Field Division, Montana.

Miss John Vic Bailey, of Mississippi, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, office Chief of the Southern Field Division, Jackson, Miss.

Local Office.- Albert G. Rowzee, of New Mexico, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Great Falls, Montana.

Miss Alice A. Ennis, of Idaho, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Hailey, Idaho.

### Promotions.

General Land Office.- Mont V. Livingston, of Maryland, and Clarence C. Webb, of Alabama, to clerks of Class Two at \$1400.

Isaac H. Cormany, of Maryland, Francis B. Condon, of Rhode Island, and Miss Elsie Ullman, of Ohio, to clerks of Class One, at \$1200.

Miss Virginia E. Wrenn, of Virginia, George A. Cummer, of Iowa, and Abe Barber, of New York, to clerks at \$1000.





Miss Augusta H. Wernick, of Wisconsin, Miss Ruth C. Weeder, of Michigan, Leo T. Farrell, of Iowa, Ernest D. Brown, of Kentucky, and William J. Delaney, of New Jersey, to copyist at \$900.

William E. Lum, of Mississippi, and Erskine A. Roberts, of Florida, to copyists at \$720.

Francis M. Smith, of the District of Columbia, to messenger boy at \$600.

#### Resignations.

General Land Office.- Boyd S. Beckinton, of Illinois. To accept a position as attorney in the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Rolla S. Carter, of Arizona. To accept a position as stenographer and typewriter in the War Department.

Edward T. Dillon and Hugh G. Brinkley, of the District of Columbia, messenger boys.

Miss Hildegard A. Rice, of the District of Columbia, temporary copyist (stenographer and typewriter) to accept an appointment with the Post Office Department.

Local Office.- Mrs. Maud M. Kise, clerk at \$1200, Land Office, Sundance, Wyoming, effective March 31, 1917.

Miss Mildred A. Kyle, of Pennsylvania, clerk at \$900, Land Office, Glasgow, Montana, effective April 10, 1917.

Carl S. Hicks, of Kansas, land law clerk, \$900, Land Office, Lewistown, Montana, effective April 1, 1917.

Field Service.- Clyde Rasmussen, stenographer and typewriter in the office of the Chief of Field Division, Salt Lake City, Utah, effective April 23, 1917.

#### Transfers.

General Land Office.- Miss Etta Stone, of Kansas, to accept a position in the Bureau of Pensions. Miss Stone was formerly in that Bureau.





Miss Nelly A. Perkins, of Idaho, to the Geological Survey.

Arthur K. Jones, of Illinois, to this office from law clerk, Bureau of Public Works, Philippine Service.

#### Field Service.-

Jacob C. Mulder, of Idaho, from the Bureau of Insular Affairs, War Department, to Mineral Examiner at \$1320, assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division, Wyoming.

Jacob M. Borochoff, of Georgia, from Bureau of Militia Affairs, War Department, to special agent at \$1200, assigned to the Santa Fe Field Division.

Daniel J. Geiman, of the District of Columbia, from the office of the Chief of Field Division, Helena, Montana, to special agent at \$1320, assigned to the Helena Field Division, Montana.

Richard Wright, of Massachusetts, from the land office at Glenwood Springs, Colorado, to special agent at \$1200, assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division.

Wesley J. Lefler, of Michigan, from the land office at Bismarck, North Dakota, to special agent at \$1200, and assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division.

#### Local Office.-

George A. Cunningham, of Rhode Island, from the Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona, to Chief Clerk at \$1500, Land Office, Glasgow, Montana.

Roy K. Watson, of Missouri, from the Land Office at Springfield, Missouri, to land law clerk at \$1140, Land Office, Phoenix, Arizona.

William T. Sommerville, of Minnesota, from the Land Office at Glasgow, Montana, to Chief Clerk at \$1500, Land Office, Great Falls, Montana.

Charles Simon, of New York, from the Land Office at Blackfoot, Idaho, to land law clerk at \$1380, in the Land Office at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Miss Kate M. Wilkinson, of Michigan, from the Land Office at Minot, North Dakota, to Chief Clerk at \$1500, Land Office, Miles City, Montana.





Surveyors General.-

Mrs. Jessie D. Pearce, of North Dakota, from the Office of the Surveyor General of Utah to the Reclamation Service.

#### OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret announcement is made of the following deaths:

Rufus A. Stutts, April 15, 1917. Mr. Stutts had been identified for many years with the work handled by the Board of Equitable Adjudication and rendered exceedingly valuable services in that field.

Benjamin F. Sparhawk, April 17, 1917. Mr. Sparhawk has been connected with this office for twenty-seven years, having entered the service in 1890.

W. H. Ritenour, April 14, 1917. The death of Mr. Ritenour was exceedingly unfortunate and has called forth an unusual expression of sympathy, due not only to the fact that he was a young man of unusual promise, but also that his death was due to military service in which he had engaged, while at the same time discharging his clerical duties in this office.

Walter A. Wilson, April 7, 1917. Mr. Wilson was connected with the land office at Phoenix, Arizona, for eight years, and prior to that was employed in the Dickinson land office. His service in these two subordinate offices of the General Land Office covered a period of ten years.

Mrs. Mary K. Gulick, March 20, 1917. Mrs. Gulick was connected with this office for thirty-five years, having entered the service in 1882.

#### FAMILY LETTERS.

##### From California.

I want to congratulate you upon the happy idea that has prompted you to give life to "The Land Service Bulletin," a copy of the initial issue of which has been received and read by everyone in this office.

It has been the subject of much favorable comment among us. Its purpose is a most laudable one and, personally, I feel that it is going to do a great deal of good in getting us better acquainted with each other, thereby creating a better spirit of interest, co-operation, and loyalty in our work.





From New Mexico.

In view of the WAR situation, we have the honor respectfully to suggest that as full and specific directions and advice as possible might be given in the next number of the "Bulletin" regarding the matter as to how employees of the Land Office service may best give their support to the President and Congress, and may best serve the public, in this trying and critical time in the Nation's history.

Please accept our thanks for the numbers of the "Bulletin" already received.

LAND OFFICE NOTES.

A considerable section of the West must know by this time that we are "moving"; for we have been obliged to advise numerous correspondents of our inability to answer their questions--willing though we be--because our tract books are inaccessible until we get into our new quarters.

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The war revives interest in two old acts: that of June 16, 1898, which provided that the service of a homestead settler in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps during the existing war with Spain "or during any other war in which the United States (might) be engaged," should be equivalent to residence upon the land claimed, and cultivation thereon, for the same length of time, and that his entry should be protected against contest during the period of his service; and that of Section 2300, Revised Statutes, which provides that a person who has served not less than fourteen days in the United States Army, or Navy, during the existence of an actual war may make homestead entry though he has not reached the age of twenty-one.

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Here is a bouquet from a Wyoming correspondent: "I certainly wish to thank you for your decision, and can truthfully say that you certainly righted an injustice." Needless to say, we had rendered a righteous decision in his favor.

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As an indication of the spirit of the times a correspondent from the middle West recently addressed this office:

"General Land Office,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:"

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Since the passage of the act of December 29, 1916, providing for stock-raising homesteads upon lands "of such character that 640 acres are reasonably required for the support of a family", the attention of this office has been drawn to numerous expressions of doubt as to whether the area which may be acquired under said act by one person will prove to be sufficient for its contemplated purposes. Persons claiming familiarity, from experience and observation, in connection with such matters in the West have freely expressed the opinion that inasmuch as the lands which may properly be designated for such entry have but little crop possibilities, and are incapable of sustaining but a relatively small number of stock, the practical operations of this new law are likely to prove a serious disappointment to the entrymen. An interesting and concrete proof, however, that such opinion is not generally shared throughout the West is furnished by reports from the local officers in those States affected by said act, showing that up to March 31, 1917, there had been filed more than fifty thousand applications under said law, affecting an area of approximately twenty million acres. In the light of these figures it is apparent that there has been no abatement in the hunger for land.

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That the duties of a special agent require men of fortitude and stamina is illustrated by daily reports received from some of the special agents operating in Alaska; witness the following extracts:

"Left Twelve Mile at 11:00 A.M., 48 degrees below zero, too cold to travel except in middle of day; arrived at Chena at 2:00 P.M., distance traveled twelve miles, too cold to continue on trail after 2:00 P.M."

"Left Chena at 11:00 A.M., by dog team, 52 degrees below zero . . . . . arrived at Fairbanks at 2:00 P.M., distance traveled twelve miles."

To face weather like that and to make investigations under such conditions might very well be characterized as the heroism of the commonplace.

While service in Alaska might not appeal to many of the agents in other divisions, there is no better assignment for the development of first-class special agents, for in that division a man is more on his own resources than in any other, and to fill the bill the agents must be men of good judgment, possess initiative, and be able to dispose of quickly the problems presented.

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### Imperial Valley:

Original action has been taken on 169 applications to purchase lots, ten chains or less in width, in the resurveyed area of Imperial County, California, under the act of March 3, 1909 (35 Stat., 779). Of these, 68 were free from conflicts, and cash certificates were ordered to be issued thereon, while the remaining 101 applications were rejected in part or entirely, or consolidated with other applications, or additional evidence or payment required. The adjustment of these applications has presented many perplexing complications calling for exceedingly careful work in the office in order that the purpose and intent of the act should be carried into effect.

### Concerning Stock Driveways:

On April 12, Secretary Lane temporarily withdrew, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the public lands in certain areas in Harney and Malheur Counties, Oregon, from all disposition pending determination as to the necessity and advisability of reserving the lands as stock driveways under Section 10 of the act of December 29, 1916 (Public No. 290). The withdrawal which will preserve the status of the lands pending further investigation was based upon reports of the Portland Field Division on six petitions from local stockmen or stock associations for stock driveway withdrawals. The aggregate area so withdrawn is 136,291 acres.

### Proposed Forest Reserve in Alabama:

By Executive Order of April 10, about 10,000 acres in northern Alabama were withdrawn for forestry purposes in connection with areas purchased or to be purchased under the act of March 1, 1911 (36 Stat., 961), called the Weeks Law.

### Proposed Game Reserve:

On April 16, the President signed an order withdrawing the public lands in an area lying north of the Yellowstone National Park in Montana and between the Absaroka and Gallatin National Forests, subject to prior valid adverse rights, in aid of legislation to establish a winter range and feeding ground for the elk in the Park when driven out by deep snows. The lands withdrawn amount to about 7,390 acres.

### Abandoned Military Reservation:

Fort Sabine, abandoned military reservation, containing about 20,000 acres of land, situated in the southwest corner of Louisiana, where the Sabine River enters the Gulf of Mexico, has been ordered surveyed and subdivided for disposal. The work is now in hand and after survey, the lands will be appraised and sold at not less than their appraised value. The tract is bounded on the west by the Sabine





Pass and on the south by the Gulf, and is within thirty miles of Beaumont, Texas. Possibly, valuable oil deposits may be discovered on the reservation. The disposition of these lands has been deferred awaiting the receipt of a requested opinion of the Attorney General, as to whether or not the State of Louisiana secured a valid title to certain lands certified to it under the swamp land act. This opinion was adverse to the claim of the State under said certification. The reservation was established by Executive Order of December 20, 1838, and it was held that the land in said reservation, which was not abandoned until March 25, 1871, was impliedly excepted from the grant in the swamp land act of March 2, 1849, and that the approval of the swamp land list by the Secretary of the Interior was void upon its face. The opinion follows the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. Garfield (211 U. S., 70), involving different lands in the same reservation.

#### Red Cross Activities:

Miss M. C. Smith of the Field Service Division and Mrs. H. M. Curran of Division "O" have been appointed a committee to secure memberships and organize classes in connection with the Interior Department Red Cross Unit. The committee, assisted by Miss Robbins of Division "D", collected \$257.25 in membership dues and renewals on April 17, and has assisted in organizing two classes for instruction in First Aid and one in Surgical Dressings under direction of the American Red Cross. A number of the women of the Land Office are also doing practical work at home for hospitals or soldiers at the front under the supervision of Mrs. Franklin K. Lane, Mrs. Alexander T. Vogelsang, Mrs. Clay Tallman, Mrs. Van H. Manning and Mrs. E. C. Tieman. The materials have been furnished by friends and department stores.

#### INDEMNITY SCHOOL LAND SELECTIONS.

The Supreme Court of the United States, March 26, 1917, in the case of the State of California vs. Deseret Water, Oil and Irrigation Company, handed down an opinion of great importance in the adjustment of grants made in aid of public schools.

The case involved a construction of Sections 2275 and 2276 of the Revised Statutes as amended by the act of February 28, 1891 (26 Stat., 796), which the Department for many years has held authorized an exchange of title between the State and the United States where a school section subsequent to survey was included within a federal reservation.





Due, however, to a decision in the case of Hibbard vs. Slack (84 Fed. Rep., 571), where a contrary view was expressed, the Department has for several years suspended the further adjustment of the school grant where it involved this question, pending an effort to secure such legislation as would remove the conflict of authorities.

This decision, however, that we now have, removes all further question and settles the matter finally in favor of the long standing construction adopted by the Department. The Court said after a full discussion of departmental decisions:

"It is therefore urged that such construction has become a rule of property. In this situation we should be slow to disturb a ruling of the Department of the Government to which is committed the administration of public lands. *McMichael v. Murphy*, 197 U. S., 304.

Furthermore, the reasoning upon which the departmental interpretation is founded commends itself to our judgment as best calculated to carry out the purposes intended to be accomplished by the statute in question."

The Land Department certainly has much reason to congratulate itself upon the rendition of this decision, inasmuch as it removes any possible question as to title to upwards of two million acres of land, heretofore listed and certified under the present construction of this statute, and relieves from suspension pending claims, probably of an equal acreage.

#### OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT.

The decision rendered by the United States Supreme Court April 23, in the case of Oregon and California Railroad Company vs. The United States, closes the final chapter in the story of the Oregon and California land grant.

This company received a grant to aid in the construction of a railroad across the entire western end of the State of Oregon, embracing in the aggregate, over 4,200,000 acres of land, a large part of which carried a heavy growth of valuable timber. One of the provisions of the grant required that the land should be sold "to actual settlers only, in quantities not greater than one quarter section to one purchaser, and at a price not exceeding \$2.50 per acre." The company, however, did not observe this requirement, but withdrew its lands from market, on the terms imposed by the grant, and only sold them to purchasers in large bodies, at a price much in excess of that authorized by the grant. The refusal of the company to abide by the terms of the grant led Congress to direct the institution of a suit to secure its forfeiture as to all lands remaining unsold, which resulted in a decision of the United States Supreme Court June 21, 1915 (238 U. S., 393), wherein it was held that the conditions of sale, imposed by the grant, could not be





properly worked out without further legislation on the part of Congress. The Court, therefore, enjoined the company from any sale or disposition of the unsold grant lands, or the timber thereon, until Congress should have a reasonable opportunity to provide by legislation for their disposition, in accordance with such policy as should be fitting under the circumstances, and at the same time secure to the defendants all the value the granting acts conferred upon the railroad.

Following this decision of the Supreme Court, Congress by act of June 9, 1916 (39 Stat., 218), revested in the United States the title to all the lands of the Oregon and California land grant remaining unsold July 1, 1913, the company to receive \$2.50 per acre for all of such land. The area of land, the title to which was thus returned to the United States, is approximately 2,300,000 acres, for the disposition of which, Congress made specific provisions after a classification thereof, the agricultural lands to be disposed of under the homestead laws, the timber to be sold separately, and lands valuable for power site to be withdrawn for such use and disposition as might be provided by law. Among other things, the act also provided, that the taxes unpaid by the company, pending litigation, should be paid by the United States.

The Land Department promptly upon the passage of this act set about the classification of the revested lands, and the ascertainment of the taxes due and unpaid, to the end that the lands should be opened to entry, and the timber put upon the market at the earliest moment practicable; but the company shortly after the passage of the act, served a notice upon the several departments charged with its execution, protesting against the enforcement of its provisions, especially against the payment of any taxes in accordance therewith. In keeping with this protest, the company appealed from the decree entered in the United States District Court, under the decision of the United States Supreme Court, at the same time calling in question the constitutionality of the act of revestment.

The decision we now have, with a modification of the decree below in the matter of costs, fully upholds the action of Congress in revesting title to this body of land in the United States, and leaves the Land Department free to proceed with the full enforcement of all of its provisions.

It should be remembered, however, that before we can open any of these lands to homestead entry, or sell any of the timber thereon, they must be classified, and the taxes due thereon must be paid, matters which will require with the utmost expedition on our part, a considerable period of time. No effort will be spared on our part to put into full effect the beneficent terms of this act at the earliest date possible.





## REMOVAL OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

As this number of the Bulletin goes to issue the current business of the office is suffering a general dislocation of all organized method, due to the removal from our present office to the new Interior Department building.

It is no slight task to transplant a service like ours bodily from one office to another, without absolutely stopping the transaction of business; but the removal has been conducted along such lines that some of the divisions have been able to resume work in the new quarters even before others had made a start from the old.

The permanent files of closed cases in the office, aside from the patent records, reach the figures of ten millions, live cases a million and a half, a law library of forty-five hundred volumes and the office equipment for five hundred clerks and employees, all to be picked up bodily, pulled up by the roots and set down in another part of the city and yet not "turn off the power". This is the proposition that meets our Executive.

It may be that our new home will be so modern in its office equipment, its location so desirable, that we will not regret our removal, but it don't feel that way now.

### A Twin Official in Alaska

#### Thirty Years Ago.

The act of May 17, 1884 (23 Stat., 24), providing a civil government for Alaska, in section 8 created a land district of the Territory, locating the land office at Sitka, and providing that the Marshal of the U. S. District Court should be ex officio surveyor general. The letter that follows requires no diagram.

Sitka, Alaska, October 5, 1887.

To the

Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I respectfully represent that since assuming the duties of Marshal of this district, no business appertaining to my twin office, that of Surveyor General, has until quite recently, been presented, but each mail now brings its full quota of applications for surveys and patents for mineral lands, principally from Juneau, Douglas Island and the Berners Bay district.

I have not, as yet, received a department communication concerning the office of Surveyor General, no instructions in connection therewith, have no blanks, no books of record, and there is none to be had within one thousand miles of my office, and without money to buy them were they at hand. With the duties of the office I have no experience, and what is more serious, the office itself has no emoluments - other than the cursing I get for insisting that the land laws shall be strictly complied with in every instance.





The duties of the Marshall of this district are multifarious and rapidly assuming large proportions. I am custodian of the Territorial prison, crowded with culprits two of whom are likely to require hanging in the near future. I have the care of fifteen prize schooners together with fifteen thousand fur seal skins - to keep from spoiling until they can otherwise be disposed of. At present I am inflicted with an order of the Court to proceed to San Francisco on urgent public business, with the moral certainty that my salary will be confiscated by the Treasury Department should I absent myself from home without consent of the Department of Justice, while public interests does not admit of the delay necessary to procure such consent - two months or more. I am not allowed a clerk at either of my headquarters - 180 miles apart; at which places I am often required to be simultaneous.

Therefore Resolved: That a competent clerk is an actual requirement in the office of the U. S. Marshal - Ex-officio Surveyor General, of the Territory of Alaska.

Very respectfully,  
Your obd't Serv't

Barton Atkins  
U.S. Marshal and  
Ex Officio Surveyor  
General.

Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar,  
Secretary of the Interior,  
Washington, D. C.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

Reports from the Rocky Mountain States indicate that there is considerable snow in the mountains this year. Arrangements, however, are perfected for the inauguration of the surveying season on the lower levels at an early date.

The storage of iron corner posts at central depots throughout the West appears to be giving general satisfaction and the indications are that it will prove to be economical.

Several surveyors who have been operating in the southern States during the winter, under the direction of Supervisor Kidder have been ordered to report to this city during May and June, authority for which detail was provided in the General Deficiency bill. They will assist the survey division in the testing of returns of surveys.

It may be a matter of interest to many that the field surveying force makes use of 353 government-owned horses and mules





trained to service as pack animals or used in hauling freight.

The surveying service is now disposing of solar instruments which have been in continuous service for twenty years, but are still in condition to be used by private surveyors. This is thought to be a creditable showing for the carefulness of the surveyors in handling these delicate instruments.

#### At Home and Abroad.

Francis E. Joy, U. S. Surveyor, and Basil C. Perkins, U. S. Transitman, will resume work on the survey of Indian Pueblos on April 10th, commencing with the Santo Domingo Pueblo in New Mexico.

Lee S. Miller, U. S. Surveyor, of the district of New Mexico, has resigned for the purpose of entering private practice.

Messrs. Albert Smith, Jr., and H. L. Baldwin, U. S. Surveyors, have commenced the survey of the Fort Sabine Abandoned Military Reservations, Louisiana. They will complete this survey in a few weeks and proceed to the northern districts.

Mr. S. W. Goodale, Law Examiner, detailed to examine surveyors General's offices and local land offices, arrived in San Francisco March 31st, visiting on his way from Washington, Neligh, Nebraska, Denver, Colorado, and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mrs. Earl Harrington of Denver, formerly Miss Lillian Benson, visited last week the survey division of the General Land Office where she was formerly employed.

Norman L. King, Chief Clerk in the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico, returned to his duties in that office on April 7th. Mr. King had been absent since May 11, 1916, on military leave in the New Mexico National Guard on border duty, and was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service on April 5, 1917.

Ray D. Shoemaker, stenographer and typewriter in the office of the Helena Field Division, Montana, was called to his regiment on the morning of March 27th. Mr. Shoemaker is a member of the Montana National Guard.

Mr. J. D. Yelverton, Chief of Field Service, is making an extended trip through the various field divisions.

Capt. Alvin D. Hathaway, and Sergt. Francis J. Connelly, of Company F, 3rd D. C. Infantry, employees in this office, have been mustered into the army for service during the war with Germany.





Mr. Archer W. Bedel, a member of the force in the office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico, and a member of the National Guard of that State, who responded to the first call on May 11th, returned to his duties in the Surveyor General's office on April 9th, having been honorably discharged and mustered out of the service on April 5th.

Miss Ellie D. Bouldin, of Virginia, has been designated by Executive Order of April 4, 1917, to sign land patents during the absence of the clerk regularly designated for that service.

#### SALES OF INDIAN LANDS TO BE HELD DURING SUMMER.

Approximately 300,000 acres of land within the former Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah, will be offered for sale to the highest bidders for cash at not less than fifty cents per acre, at Provo, Utah, commencing June 18, 1917. Lands within the reservation classified or withdrawn as coal lands will be sold with a reservation of the coal deposits under the act of February 27, 1917 (Public No. 358), and lands classified as oil shale lands or withdrawn as phosphate lands will be sold with a reservation of the mineral deposits in conformity with the act of July 17, 1914 (38 Stat., 509). It will be the first time lands have been sold at public auction with a reservation of the mineral deposits under either of said acts.

About 16,000 acres of land within the former Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, Idaho, will be offered for sale to the highest bidders for cash, at not less than \$1.00 per acre, at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, commencing August 16, 1917.

About 26,000 acres of land within the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, will be offered for sale to the highest bidders for cash, at not less than the appraised prices, lands in the Kalispell, Montana, land district to be offered for sale at Kalispell, commencing August 20, 1917, and lands in the Missoula land district at Missoula, commencing August 30, 1917.

All persons purchasing at the above sales must be eighteen years of age or over and no person will be permitted to purchase more than 640 acres in any of the reservations or to purchase any amount of land in any reservation which added to the area in such reservation theretofore purchased in his right at public sale exceeds 640 acres. Persons purchasing the Uintah or Flathead lands will not be required to furnish proof as to the character or condition of the land. Those purchasing in the Coeur d'Alene Reservation will be required to furnish non-mineral affidavits.





#### FORT BERTHOLD DRAWING.

John McPhaul, Superintendent of Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations, left Washington on April 25, 1917, en route to Minot, North Dakota. He will superintend a drawing between conflicting homestead applications for unallotted coal lands in Sections 16 and 36 within the former Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, to be held at Minot on May 3, 1917. The coal deposits will be reserved to the United States in trust for the Fort Berthold Indians.

#### CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

The Civil Service Commission is holding examinations for stenographer and typewriter, male and female, all over the United States on Tuesday of every week, and will continue to do so until further notice. The examinations are for regular appointments, the apportionment being waived for the War and Navy Departments, only, due to the great demand for that class of work caused by the present conditions of our country.

#### TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin". All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

June 1, 1917.

No. 4.

## GALUSHA A. GROW, FATHER OF THE HOMESTEAD LAW.\*

This is the title of a new book just published, that is of more than passing interest to all of us who are interested in the history and growth of our public-land system. As a general proposition, probably nobody here in our entire service today would question the wisdom, and certainly not the legality, of the homestead, as we know it, as a means of settling and developing the country in a manner most conducive to equal opportunity for the man who has little means other than his two hands and large amount of American enterprise. Yet there was a bitter fight over the policy, and even of the constitutionality, of the homestead idea. For ten years Congressman Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, led a continuous fight for a real homestead law, until its enactment in 1862.

Grow was a conspicuous figure in Congress before, during, and after the Civil War. He was born in Connecticut in 1823, but at an early age was left fatherless and removed with his mother to Pennsylvania, where he grew up in what was then the frontier. His mother appears to have been a woman of more than ordinary character and ability, and it was she who started him on the way toward acquiring an education. Grow studied law and was admitted to practice. Although he took much interest in the politics of the time, he did not hold office until elected to Congress as a Democrat in 1850, when the Missouri Compromise and related questions constituted the central issue; and the land policy was one of these related questions. The old cash sale system was a source of speculation instead of home building. Grow at once took an intense interest in this subject, on the side of a change to a system that would encourage immigration and actual settlement, and the homestead law in one form or





another was a subject of controversy in every session of Congress from 1850 to 1862.

Grow in the meantime had become a Republican and a national figure, so much so that he was elected Speaker of the first Congress after Lincoln's inauguration. During this trying and epochal period he was equal to the occasion, and during this session saw the fruition of his long fight for the Homestead Law, which went into effect January 1, 1863, at the same time as the Emancipation Proclamation.

Grow was defeated for Congress in 1863, said to be a result of the redistricting of his State. Now comes the strange part, after having been out of Congress for thirty years, he was again elected in 1893 to fill a vacancy, and was reelected for three successive terms, during which period he was an interesting and venerable figure. In 1903, when he finally retired, a great home-coming celebration was held at Montrose, Pennsylvania; the parade was reviewed and speeches made from the court house steps by Hon. Galusha A. Grow, Father of the Homestead Law, and by Daniel Freeman, the first homesteader, who filed on the  $S\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 26, T. 4 N., R. 5 E., near Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska, at 12:30 A. M., January 1, 1863, and who on September 1, 1869, received patent No. 1, recorded on page 1, volume 1, of Homestead Patents, old series, on our office records.

Grow died in 1907. Among the many tributes paid him from time to time, the following is from John Hay:

"Mr. Grow has lived in a great time and has borne his party nobly in the momentous events which have fulfilled the long space of his political activity. But the one achievement which will make his name memorable among those of the benefactors of his kind is the Homestead Law. An act like this transcends all considerations of political and economic success, and appeals to the heart and the sentiment of all people. A man who has contributed, as Galusha Grow has, to the lasting welfare of millions is entitled to the gratitude not only of his country but of the world."

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\*Galusha A. Grow, Father of the Homestead Law, by James T. DuBois and Gertrude S. Mathews, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

#### General Land Office.-

Mr. Guy Holsopple, of Pennsylvania, copyist at \$900, by reinstatement.

Talmage Baker, of Louisiana, copyist at \$720, by reinstatement.

John J. Campbell, of the District of Columbia, messenger boy at \$480, by reinstatement.

Mrs. Goldie G. Miller, of New York, copyist at \$720, by reinstatement.

Misses Mary E. Troy and Sara A. Creeden, of Kentucky and Ohio, respectively, copyists at \$720 per annum.

#### Field Service.-

Frank A. Wegner, of California, timber cruiser at \$1200; assigned to the Cheyenne Field Division, but now on temporary duty in the Santa Fe Field Division.

#### Local Office.-

Karl J. Kirkpatrick, of Montana, land law clerk, Land Office, Montrose, Colorado, at \$900.

Miss Kathleen M. Mann, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, land office Glasgow, Montana.

Miss Jane M. Hendricks, of Colorado, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Pueblo, Colorado.

Miss Margery L. Cobban, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, land office Glasgow, Montana.

Vane C. Bosworth, of Illinois, land law clerk at \$900, land office Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Henry H. Lepper, of Massachusetts, land law clerk at \$900, land office Great Falls, Montana.

Henry T. Leckman, of Montana, and Edmund G. Shannon, of Mississippi, land law clerks at \$900, land office Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Walter S. Wright, of Washington, land law clerk at \$900, land office Pueblo, Colorado.





Promotions.

General Land Office.-

Howard F. Morgan, of Colorado, to Clerk of Class Three at \$1600.

Mrs. Hattie R. McMullen, of the District of Columbia, to Clerk of Class Two at \$1400.

Frederick G. Tansill, of Texas, and Miss Julia F. Kehoe, to clerks of Class Two at \$1200.

Miss Agnes E. Kempf, of Missouri, Ollie H. Burriss, of Ohio, Wade H. Carter, of California, and Orlando W. Goodwin, of Wisconsin, to clerks at \$1000.

William J. Delaney, of New Jersey, from skilled laborer at \$660 to Copyist at \$900.

William E. Lum, of Mississippi, from skilled laborer to Copyist at \$720.

Francis M. Smith, of District of Columbia, from messenger boy at \$480 to same at \$600.

Erskine A. Roberts, of Florida, from skilled laborer at \$660 to copyist at \$720.

Miss Onie Rymer, of Tennessee, and John I. Boone, of Oklahoma, to copyists at \$900.

Samuel H. Merritt, of Wisconsin, to copyist at \$720.

Transfers.

General Land Office.-

Miss Preston Womack, of Virginia, to the Department of Agriculture, Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering.

William H. Drayton, of South Carolina, to the Government Printing Office.

James C. Davenport, of Alabama, to the Treasury Department, Auditor for the War Department.

Frank J. Bergin, of Ohio, to the Office of the Secretary as an Assistant Attorney at \$2000.

Arthur Ruderman, of the District of Columbia, to the Department of Commerce, Census Office.





Field Service.- John R. Milburn, of Maryland, to special agent at \$1200, by transfer from the position of Second Assistant Examiner, Patent Office.

Local Office.- Oliver T. Lawman, of Kansas, clerk at \$1080 land office Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, from the Federal Trade Commission.

John J. Honan, Jr., of Massachusetts, clerk, land office Boise, Idaho, at \$1080, from the 4th Assistant Post Master General's Office, Post Office Department.

Guy M. Salisbury, of Oklahoma, clerk at \$1440, land office Spokane, Washington, to the Indian Service.

Surveyors General.- Miss Ella Ryser, of Utah, from stenographer and typewriter, office of Surveyor General, Utah, to the Bureau of Mines.

Resignations.

General Land Office.- Miss Alice M. McLaughlin, of Massachusetts, copyist at \$720.

George A. Cummer, of Iowa, clerk at \$1000.

Robert E. McKinstry, of Missouri, skilled laborer at \$660.

Richard L. Merrick, of Oregon, copyist at \$900.

Field Service.- Eugene L. Harshbarger, of Kansas, Transitman at \$110 per month.

Surveyors General.- Lewis F. Butterfield, of Massachusetts, topographic draftsman at \$4.25 per diem. Office Surveyor General, Helena, Montana.

Local Office.- George M. Laird, of Nebraska, clerk at \$1320, Land Office Great Falls, Montana.

The following employees in this office have received notice to report in the Officers Reserve Corps Training Camp at Fort Myer, Virginia, and reported in camp on May 14th:

Elmer Pendell;  
Henry E. Corcoran;  
Walter M. E. Sullivan;





Walter S. Binley;  
Charles T. Kemmerer;  
Alvin D. Colburn.

Mr. Pendell has received his commission as Second Lieutenant, and Mr. Colburn as Major.

FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

From the Manager of the Land and Industrial Department,  
Alaskan Engineering Commission,  
Anchorage, Alaska.

I have received the first copy of the "Land Service Bulletin", and I am much interested in its contents.

I am glad to see that the Land Office has started a little publicity of its own so that the public may be advised of just what work is being done by the public land service. I think that there is more real hard constructive work done by the General Land Office than any other Government bureau, and work which affects the general welfare of the nation more than any other work done by the Government. Therefore, there is no reason why the public should not be kept informed of that work. Few people really understand the public land laws, and a publication of this character will greatly facilitate in informing them of the provisions of the laws and of the changes in the regulations and of the new rulings made in the administration of the laws.

I shall look forward to receiving a copy of the "Bulletin" each month and I hope that you will not fail to put my name on the mailing list.

I have today put the "Bulletin" on the mailing list for the ALASKA RAILROAD RECORD so that you may copy articles from it if there should at any time appear in the publication anything that would justify printing in the "Bulletin." I enclose herewith copy of the issue of April 17.

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PROGRESS OF HOME CLUB WAR RELIEF WORK.

The Home Club War Relief Work, under the leadership of Mrs. Lane, is making splendid progress. The response and hearty cooperation of the women of the Home Club are most encouraging. Already more than 75 women are regularly and systematically contributing their time and labor. The headquarters for the work are in the Home Club rooms, which are open two afternoons each week for the purpose of distributing materials and receiving work already done. A careful record is kept of all material given out and work accomplished and the work done is closely examined to see





that it conforms strictly with the standards of the Red Cross regulations, all of which is done under the personal supervision of Mrs. Lane and the ladies assisting her. So far two bales of hospital supplies and clothing have been prepared and are ready for shipment. Each bale contains 36 sheets, 24 pillow cases, and 24 suits of pajamas, and is intended to supply 12 hospital beds. A considerable quantity of knitted woolen socks and helmets have also been made. At present shipments are to be made direct to a hospital base in France. As soon as our own soldiers are there the shipments will be diverted for their benefit. Though the organization has been able to buy its material at wholesale prices, the materials already used and on hand have cost about \$700, all of which has been raised by voluntary contribution. The materials on hand will last only a little while longer. In order to keep this good work going and to enlarge upon it, it is going to be necessary for the organization to arrange for a regular and dependable source of funds to buy the necessary materials. To this end a movement will be inaugurated among all employees of the Department to secure definite small contributions each month from those who do not feel that they are contributing all they can afford to other organizations. It is thought that this plan will not only place the organization on a basis where it can plan ahead and greatly enlarge the scope of its work, but will also afford an opportunity for many who want to do their bit in a way which will be systematic and effective and yet not too burdensome.

#### MAPS AND SCHEDULES OF UINTAH INDIAN LANDS, UTAH.

Maps and schedules have been compiled and printed of lands within the former Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah, to be offered for sale to the highest bidders at Provo, Utah, commencing June 18, 1917. The two publications will be sold for \$.25, by the register and receiver at Vernal, Utah.

#### SCHEDULES OF COEUR D'ALENE INDIAN LANDS, IDAHO, AND FLATHEAD INDIAN LANDS, MONTANA.

Schedules are in course of compilation and will probably be printed for distribution by August 1, 1917, showing lands in the former Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, Idaho, to be offered for sale to the highest bidders at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on August 16, 1917, and showing lands in the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, to be offered for sale at Kalispell, Montana, commencing August 20, 1917, and at Missoula, Montana, commencing August 30, 1917. No charge will be made for these publications. Requests for copies thereof should be made to the proper district land office.

#### SALES OF CROW INDIAN LANDS.

Unappropriated and unreserved lands within the ceded portion of the Crow Indian Reservation, Montana, not withdrawn under the Reclamation Act, were opened to homestead entry in 1906. The lands not





entered under the homestead laws were offered for sale to the highest bidders in 1910. The undisposed of lands were again offered for sale to the highest bidders in 1912. The total amount of land one person was permitted to purchase at both public sales was 640 acres.

Lands in a number of townships in the eastern part of the reservation were not offered at the above sales for the reason that they had been withdrawn as coal lands and some of the lands offered at those sales were not sold. The remaining non-mineral lands were opened to special entry and purchase in 1914. Entrymen were not required to make any showing as to lands previously acquired by them under the public land laws.

Proclamation of April 6, 1917, authorizes special entries and purchases for unappropriated and unreserved coal lands on the reservation and provides that all lands, both coal and non-coal, remaining undisposed of on June 30, 1917, shall be offered for sale to the highest bidders at Billings, Montana, commencing September 4, 1917. In all entries and purchases of the coal lands under said Proclamation, the coal deposits will be reserved in conformity with the Act of February 27, 1917 (39 Stat., 944). No limitation is fixed as to the amount of land one person may acquire at the sale on September 4.

#### DEPARTMENTAL RULINGS AFFECTING CROW LANDS.

Departmental Instructions dated June 1, 1915 (44 L. D., 121), direct that where Crow lands are sold on installment payments under a non-mineral classification and are classified as coal lands prior to final payment, final certificate and patent shall issue without a reservation of the coal deposits, upon final payment being made.

Departmental Instructions dated April 11, 1917, direct that lands in the reservation classified as coal and non-coal lands in tracts less than legal subdivisions, in accordance with Departmental Instructions of November 15, 1912 (41 L. D., 399), which Instructions were revoked by Instructions of February 16, 1915 (43 L. D., 520), shall be disposed of under the descriptions fixed by the existing classifications.

#### COAL LANDS - FORT PECK INDIAN RESERVATION.

The provisions of the act approved February 27, 1917 (Public No. 358), have been invoked for the entry of 107,000 acres of land in the former Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana. Approximately a hundred entries were allowed upon the theory that the lands were subject to disposition under the provisions of the act of June 22, 1910, and these entries, where otherwise regular, were permitted to remain intact, subject to the provisions of the said act (Public No. 358), by proclamation issued by the President. The Department has decided that applicants under the coal land law for lands within the former Fort Peck Reservation, where such lands had been given an agricultural classification and appraisal, and were also found to contain coal, must pay for such lands not only the coal price but the appraised agricultural price, as well. Directions have been issued for suspending action on applications for which





the entire purchase price has not been paid, permitting the applicants to make additional payments to conform to the ruling that payments must be made for both values. The lands subject to disposition under the homestead laws are being rapidly appropriated, under said act.

### FIELD SURVEYING SERVICE.

The Field Surveying Service of the General Land Office consists of one Chief Supervisor of Surveys, one Associate Supervisor of Surveys, 9 Assistant Supervisors and a corps of normally 160 surveyors and transitmen. This organization prosecutes in the field under the general supervision of the Commissioner the public land survey of the United States and Alaska.

In the interests of good administration, the public land states and the territory of Alaska are organized into nine surveying districts, the field surveys in each being under the personal supervision of an Assistant Supervisor of Surveys. The survey of fragmentary tracts outside of the nine organized districts are executed under the personal supervision of the Associate Supervisor of Surveys.

The main office of the Field Surveying Organization is located in the Federal Building at Denver, Colorado, and is in charge of the Chief Supervisor of Surveys.

This organization spends annually in the prosecution of its work on an average close to \$1,000,000. Of this amount Congress appropriates \$700,000 for the survey of the public lands. About \$75,000 is contributed by the Indian Office for surveys of lands on Indian Reservations and deposits by railroads for surveys on their land grants during the past few years have averaged in amount over \$150,000 annually. Also, occasionally Congress makes special appropriations for such surveys as cannot be reached under the terms of the general appropriation.

The surveys of fragmentary tracts in the Southern States which were in operation during the winter season, have all been completed. This includes the large abandoned military reservation at the mouth of Sabine River in Louisiana embracing nearly 20,000 acres of land, which will be disposed of according to the public land laws after appraisalment.

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Mr. Harry L. Baldwin who was engaged upon the survey of the Sabine River Military Reservation has been selected to take charge of the surveys of the lands along Red River in Oklahoma, west of the 98th Meridian, changes in the boundaries of which were caused by the erosion of the banks and the alteration of the location of the channel in this stream which is the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma.

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During the month of April surveys amounting to 1,323,646 acres were accepted, an increase of 140,000 acres over the amount accepted in March.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

The following is from the Arizona office:

#### NOTICE.

"A member of the surveying corps of this District recently volunteered the statement that Polaris was steadily drifting away from the pole and was, accordingly, depreciating in value as a surveying asset of the General Land Office.

Lest this statement lead to a feeling of distrust, we hasten to state that a reference to any two consecutive Ephemerides will show the contrary to be the fact. It will be admitted, however, that Polaris, having for many years, "In eloquent silence through the depths of space pursued its wondrous way," will continue to do so and will, in time, undoubtedly drift clear beyond the pole, so that the star Vega, of the constellation Lira, will replace the North Star in approximately 13,000 years.

While this seemingly shifting about of the heavenly bodies is to be regretted, this office does not hesitate to assure its correspondent that the NEW MANUAL will undoubtedly be out by that time with all necessary information for the proper handling of the new astronomical conditions."

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The system inaugurated some time ago of assigning each member of the Field Surveying Service complete instrumental equipment and holding him responsible therefor not only for one season but throughout the seasons during the life of the equipment is already beginning to show indications of producing the very best results. Each member of the Service feels that the character of his work depends largely on his instrument and that the better care he gives his instrument the better service he can render.

The system also furnished valuable information for the Supervisor's efficiency record.

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General Land Office surveying parties are in the field on the following Indian Reservations: Standing Rock, North and South Dakota; Jicarilla Apache, New Mexico; Los Coyotes, California; Flathead, Montana; Umatilla, Oregon; the Santo Domingo Indian Pueblo, New Mexico; Uinta, Utah; and the Ben Fox Allotment, Alaska.

The Supervisor of Surveys reports that surveys on these Indian reservations are proceeding rapidly and satisfactorily.





Field work will be commenced on the Leech Lake, Cass Lake and Winnebigoishish Indian Reservations and resumed on the Grand Portage Reservation, Minnesota, as soon as weather conditions will permit.

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A meridian pier will shortly be erected on the roof of the New Federal Building at Denver in order to permit of a thorough testing by the Supervisor's office of all instruments sent in for repairs, before their return to the field.

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The Supervisor of Surveys reports that he has been making some investigations as to the practicability and economy of using motor trucks for camp transportation purposes and for line work in the plains countries in lieu of teams and wagons and that he has drawn some very interesting conclusions favorable to their use under certain conditions.

It is probable that in favorable country motor trucks will in a short time supplant the horse drawn vehicles now in use. But even with the rapid strides being made in mechanical locomotion on, above and below the earth's surface, it is not likely that anything of a mechanical nature will make its appearance in the near future that can be viewed in the light of a possible rival to the old reliable government mule when it comes to "freighting" in those outlying districts between the snow line and the timber belt, or in the canon country of the southwest.

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Many of the surveying parties in the southern districts have completed their surveys, and are now in the field in the northern districts.

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It is very gratifying to note the prompt and effective response on the part of the Surveying Corps to the Supervisor's Circular No.7, directing the strictest economy in the purchase, preparation and use of food in the survey camps.

This is the spirit of the national policy.

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The unusual amount of snow in the Rockies and the Cascades will delay the commencement of field work in the higher parts of these ranges about two weeks.

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Pursuant to a provision contained in the deficiency appropriation act approved April 17, 1917, authorizing the detail of surveyors of the





Field Surveying Service to Washington, D. C. to June 30, 1917, for the purpose of bringing up arrears of work in the Surveying Division of the General Land Office, the following were selected:

Howard R. Farnsworth, from Surveying District No. 3, (Nebraska and South Dakota).

Albinus N. Kimmell, William H. Richards, Jr., and Albert Smith, Jr., from the Eastern District.

William C. Perkins, from Surveying District No. 4, (New Mexico).

Guy H. Richardson and Hargraves Wood, from Surveying District No. 1 (Montana).

Fred W. Rodolf, from Surveying District No. 8, (Oregon and Washington).

Alton O. Stinson, from Surveying District No. 2, (Colorado and Wyoming).

These surveyors were detailed on the recommendation of the Supervisor of Surveys, who named those who in his opinion were not only qualified to examine returns of surveys in the office, but who could also best be spared from the field at this time of the season.

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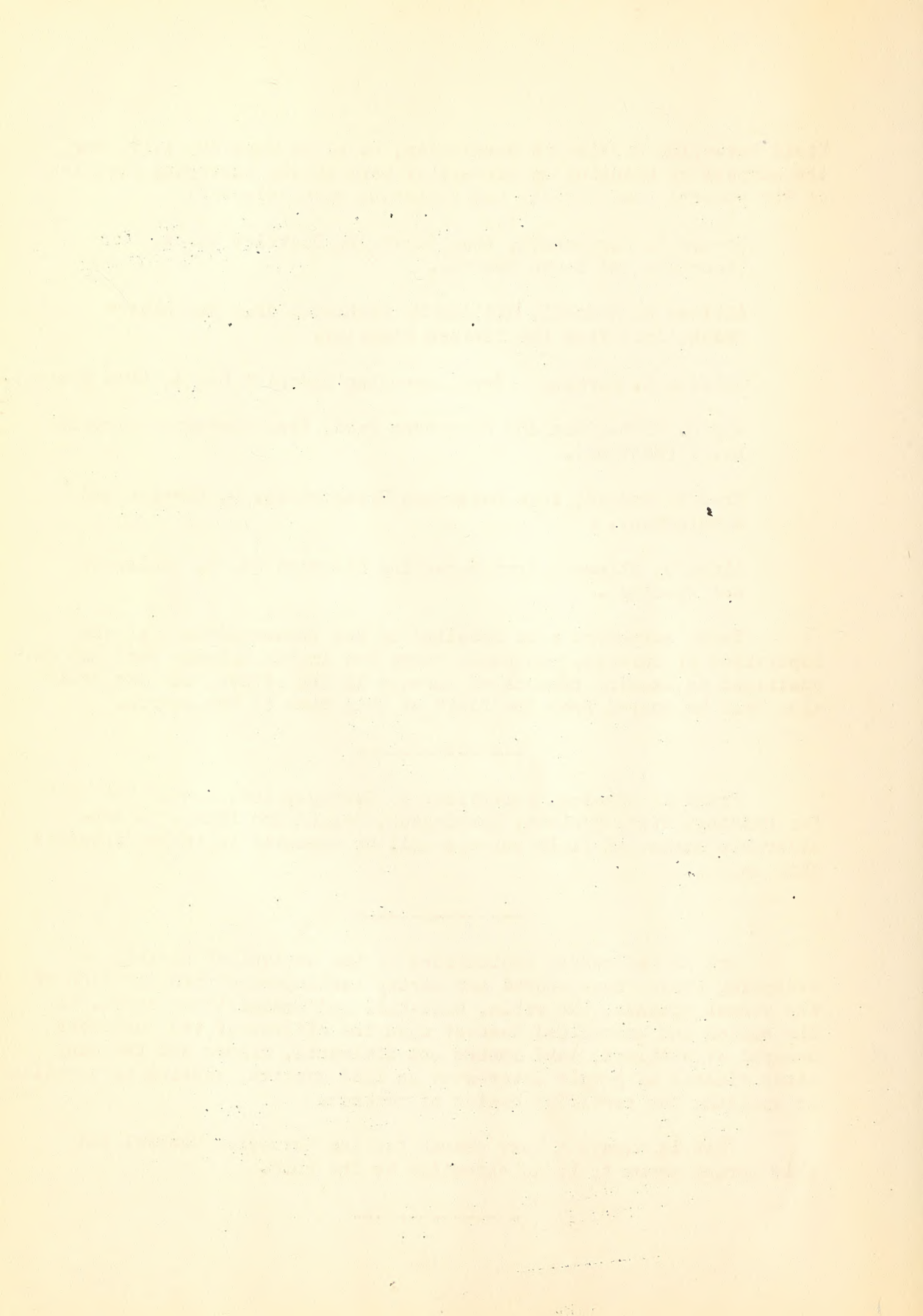
Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, left Denver May 20th for Wyoming, Utah, Montana, Washington, Oregon and Idaho. A considerable amount of field surveys will be executed in these districts this season.

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One of the surest indications of the arrival of spring, not excepting those time-honored and worthy harbingers of the approach of the vernal equinox, the robin, base-ball and annual leave cards, is the sudden and unheralded descent upon the offices of the Surveyors General of settlers, land owners and claimants, miners and the many other classes of people interested in land matters, seeking information or applying for certified copies of records.

This is always a busy season for the Surveyors General and this spring seems to be no exception to the rule.

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A considerable amount of satisfaction is being expressed in the office of the Surveyor General for Colorado over recent instructions from Washington authorizing the continuance of resurveys under Group 14, Colorado, along the lines suggested by the Surveyor General.

Group 14 presented some extremely knotty problems which refused to yield to ordinary treatment.

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Mr. C. L. Mason, who resigned the position of official stenographer in the office of the Surveyor General at Denver to accept the position of private secretary to the Chairman of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, left Denver May 1st for Anchorage, Alaska.

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The effective cooperation in many of the districts between the Supervisory Corps of the Field Surveying Service and the Surveyors General is reflected in the reports of results accomplished in those districts both in the field and in the office.

Intelligent understanding of the fundamental purposes of the General Land Office and sympathetic regard for its ideals combined with sound organization and effective cooperation between its several coordinate branches are the forces that have made and are making the Land Service one of the most useful services of the great and useful department of which it is a part.

#### LOOKING TO THE INCREASE OF FOOD CROPS.

In connection with the movement to increase the production of food crops to meet the imperative necessities of the war, the Commissioner on May 21, 1917, addressed a circular letter to the Carey Act and private irrigation projects, totalling about one thousand different systems, and transmitted to each a blank form of twenty-five questions.

This office has decided to make use of such information as it has or can procure in an endeavor to formulate definite and specific data and information as to available irrigable lands not now in cultivation for which there is an existing water supply for irrigation purposes. We are led to do this by reason of the fact that reports from the Field Service of this office on irrigation projects almost invariably show that not all of the irrigable lands on the projects are under cultivation, though a water supply therefor has been provided. Since the commencement of the agitation for increased food supply, we have received many inquiries from people who want land to cultivate, but as to private and Carey Act lands in the West susceptible of immediately being put into crop, we are unable to give them any information sufficiently specific in character to be of any practical use.





The information obtained will be turned over to the Federal and State agencies which may be designated to handle such matters, where it will do the most good.

It is probable that members of the Field Service and the local officers will be consulted with reference to this matter, and it is desired that all possible aid be extended in order that the information needed can be obtained at the earliest practicable date. The end in view is worthy of earnest effort, and whole-hearted cooperation is requested.

#### THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC LANDS.

The increasing demand for the available public lands is aptly illustrated by the number of applications recently filed in the Minot, North Dakota, land office, for sections sixteen and thirty-six, classified as coal, in the former Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. The lands within the Fort Berthold Reservation were restored under the drawing system in 1912, and while there were more than two numbers drawn for each claim, perhaps not more than one-half of the lands were immediately taken. About 110,000 acres, classified as coal, were excluded from the 1912 opening, and were made subject to entry, with the coal reserved to the United States, in 1916. About eighty per cent of the lands were immediately entered, and during the year 1916 almost all of those remaining were appropriated. In April of this year, sixty-three tracts in school sections, also classified as coal, were restored to entry under a plan by which any qualified person was allowed for a period of ten days to file his application under the homestead law, accompanied by the fees, commissions and one-fifth of the required purchase price. Conflicting rights were to be determined by a drawing. Some of the lands were appraised at \$10 an acre, and the required payment in such case was approximately \$330. There were more than eleven hundred applications filed for these sixty-three tracts, and there were between seventy and eighty applications for some of them. The receipts at the Minot land office, during the last two days for simultaneous applications were considerably in excess of \$200,000. This leads all records.

#### CONFIRMATION UNDER SECTION 7, ACT OF MARCH 3, 1891.

A decision of more than ordinary interest in the public land world was handed down by the United States Supreme Court on the twenty-first of May, in the case of Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, vs. Svan Høglund, involving the confirmatory provisions of Section 7, Act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1095). Mr. Høglund made homestead entry in the Eureka Land District, California, in 1902; the land so entered was, in 1905, included in a National Forest Reserve.





Hoglund thereafter submitted final proof on which receiver's receipt issued August 6, 1907. May 29, 1909, a report from a Forest Supervisor recommending the cancellation of the entry "on account of non-residence and lack of cultivation" was received at the General Land Office. No action was taken upon this report until April 19, 1910, on which date a proceeding in the Local Land Office was directed to determine whether the entryman had established and maintained a residence upon the land, on which a hearing was duly had. The Local Office and the Commissioner of the General Land Office each in turn found the facts in favor of the entryman, but the Secretary of the Interior arrived at a different conclusion (43 L. D., 538-540).

In the decision rendered by the Department, special consideration was given to the fact that the land, after the allowance of the entry, was included within the Forest Reservation, and, that under the terms of the Proclamation creating the Reservation, if the entryman was at such time in default, he could not thereafter cure the default as against the Reservation; it being further held that the confirmatory provisions of 1891 are not operative, because the withdrawal for public use as a National Forest attached to the land at a time when the entryman was not complying with the law, and prior to the issuance of receiver's final receipt.

In the decision of the Supreme Court, however, it was said that no importance attaches to the creation of the Forest Reserve after the original and before the final entry; that the entryman was free under the terms of the President's Proclamation to proceed with the steps essential to obtain a final entry and ultimately the full title, and to such a final entry the statute, the provision in Section 7, has the same application as if the land were without instead of within the Reserve.

#### RESTORATION TO ENTRY OF SEGREGATED PUBLIC LANDS.

First Assistant Secretary Vogelsang, citing the provisions of the act of September 30, 1913 (38 Stat., 113), which authorizes the exercise of a wide discretion as to methods that may be employed in opening public lands, that have been segregated, and expressing the view that, in taking action thereunder, persons actually seeking a home on the public domain should be given a preference over others, issued instructions May 17th, that will hereafter govern the procedure in restorations under said act.

The following provisions in these instructions are of special interest:

1. Upon elimination of lands from segregations and withdrawals, the order of restoration shall provide that subject to valid rights and the provisions of other withdrawals, the lands restored will be subject to homestead entry only on a date to be named therein, and to





settlement and all proper forms of entry, selection and location, seven days after such date. Adequate provision will be made for the protection of the equitable rights of entry possessed by persons on whose applications lands have been listed for entry under the act of June 11, 1906, as well as for the preferred rights of entry which may have been awarded to contestants of previously existing entries of lands within areas withdrawn for reclamation. All orders of restoration shall embrace instructions to prospective applicants for entry concerning their privilege to execute their applications, and present the same, together with the fees and commissions to the proper local land office, in person, by mail, or otherwise, within the twenty days next preceding the date on which the lands will become subject to entry of the form described by such applications. They will also be advised that all applications so filed, together with such as may be submitted at the hour fixed for restoration, will be treated as though simultaneously filed, and will be disposed of as directed by the regulations of May 22, 1914, Circular No. 324 (43 L. D., 254).

2. The order of opening will also contain a warning to the effect that no settlement will be recognized that is made after revocation, and prior to the expiration of seven days after the date of restoration to homestead entry; this, however, will not prevent intending entrymen going over the land for purpose of examination.

3. Orders for restoration will make provision, in proper cases, for selections by the State under the act of August 18, 1894 (28 Stat., 394), also for the exercise of the preference right of the State to make selection under the act of March 3, 1893 (27 Stat., 592).

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Edward Tiffin, the first Commissioner of the General Land Office, one hundred and five years ago this month took the oath and entered upon the duties of the newly-created office, under the Act of April 25, 1812. Books, surveys, maps, and reports regarding the public lands and territorial domains were then scattered through the archives and files of nearly all the bureaus of every Department of the Government, especially in the State and War Departments. These were collated, digested and recorded, so as to be made accessible and convenient for reference and use. Mr. Tiffin completed the work of organization, and submitted his first report at the beginning of the XIII Congress in December, 1813. This was really the first comprehensive exhibit of the national domain, its quantities, qualities, minerals and values ever compiled. At this time there were eleven land office districts, as follows:

Marietta; Zanesville; Steubenville; Canton; Chillicothe; Cincinnati; Jeffersonville; Vincennes; Madison County; West of Pearl River, and East of Pearl River.





The organic act also provided that the Commissioner's salary should be the same as the Auditor of the Treasury. At the time the latter's salary was \$2250. He had also the franking privilege.

The act of May 18, 1796, provided for the appointment of a Surveyor General and fixed his salary at \$2000. At the time Mr. Tiffin was Commissioner Mr. Josiah Meigs was Surveyor General. Mr. Tiffin often spoke of "feeling homesick" for Ohio, and he and Meigs exchanged positions, with the consent of President Madison, the headquarters of the Surveyor General's Office being removed to Chillicothe, Ohio. At the time Meigs took charge 10 clerks were employed in the office.

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The State of Indiana wears the laurel for furnishing the highest number of Commissioners for our office. Since the Act of April 25, 1812, which provided for the organization of a General Land Office of the United States to be administered by a "Commissioner of Public Lands", thirty-three Commissioners have graced the chair, and are credited to the different States as follows:

Indiana 5; The District of Columbia 4; Ohio 4; Illinois 4; Iowa 3; Georgia, Tennessee, Michigan, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, Wisconsin, Oregon, Wyoming, Washington, North Dakota, and Nevada, each one.

#### NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE HOMESTEADERS IN ALASKA.

A complete set of township plats are on file in the Land and Industrial Department at Anchorage, on which are shown all the homestead entries that have been made in the Juneau and Fairbanks Land Offices. Anyone intending to locate a homestead in the Matanuska or Susitna Valleys should first call at the office of the Land and Industrial Department and ascertain what land is vacant before making settlement on the land or filing application to enter in the United States Land Office at Juneau. It will be to the interest of the prospective settler to follow this procedure as he will not then be examining land that has already been settled upon by others, and it may avoid unnecessary delay and expense incident to any filing that can not be accepted in the United States Land Office.--

Alaska Railroad Record.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

A recent Departmental decision of more than usual interest is that of April 24, 1917, in the case of Albert G. Carson, involving his homestead application 015446, Waterville. He had received final certificate on an original entry, pursuant to three-year proof and had thereafter





made entry under the enlarged homestead act for contiguous land, but had not submitted proof on that entry. The Secretary held that he could, nevertheless, make another additional entry, for land not contiguous to his first claim--under Section 7 of that act, which requires further residence and cultivation.

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The office is in receipt of a great number of inquiries as to the rights of soldiers in the present war, in connection with homestead claims. A circular is being prepared which will furnish much of the desired information not only to the parties interested but to the local offices.

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Mr. John D. Caldwell has been appointed Superintendent of Logging, Ceded Chippewa Lands, Minnesota, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. William O'Neil. Mr. Caldwell has been Assistant Superintendent of Logging since January, 1904, and was Mr. O'Neil's right hand man. He is thoroughly equipped for the position, and the promotion was a deserving one.

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MORE AND MORE.

Mr. Josiah A. Moore, special agent of the General Land Office, formerly in charge of the Anchorage townsite, was recently transferred from Juneau to Jackson, Mississippi, where he was employed for a short time in connection with the court cases pertaining to that Field Division. Mr. Moore is now stationed at Portland, Oregon. --

Alaska Railroad Record.

Later Advices: Mr. Josiah A. Moore and Miss Helen N. Waugh, of Chicago, were married in Portland, Oregon, May 5th, 1917.

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To assist in carrying out the desires of the President as expressed in his Proclamation this office has concurred in recommending that the Reclamation Service be authorized to lease unsold lots in townsites in Reclamation Projects for a period not extending beyond December 31, 1920, for the commendable purpose of increasing the supply of agricultural products.

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The Alaska Railroad Record under date of April 24th, notes a town lot sale at Anchorage, Alaska, the day previous, at which 26 town lots were sold to as many different persons, the sale price varying from \$100 to \$750.





A new edition of Suggestions to Homesteaders is out, bringing down information and instructions to the end of the 64th Congress. This is the most popular publication of the Land Department. Everybody wants it, and almost everybody gets it.

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The Bulletin desires to acknowledge the receipt of the Alaska Railroad Record, the official publication of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, issued weekly at Anchorage, Alaska.

This is a substantial addition to our exchange list, for the eyes of public land seekers are turned more and more to the land of the North. Everything that touches upon the progress of the Government railroad, and general development of the territory is glad tidings from a far country.

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Keep Smiling. At the time our last number went to issue the General Land Office was confronted with the terrors of "moving day." We knew it would be bad, but it was worse. The only things that went through right side up were the paste pot and scissors.

It's a great place, and we are going to like it some time--when the elevators run up, and the water runs down--when the painters, plumbers, washers and scrubbers have painted, plumbed, washed and scrubbed, and ceased from troubling. Yea, verily, it's a big place, but with no room for knockers. Keep smiling!

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TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin". All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

July 1, 1917.

No. 5.

### THE OTHER FELLOW'S VIEWPOINT.

Not infrequently in this office we hear complaint and criticism of the methods of doing business or of the action taken by some individual employee in the various branches operating in the field, -- Local Office, Surveyors General, Field Service or Surveying Service, -- and when in the field our attention is frequently called, sometimes very forcibly, to alleged boneheadedness on the part of G. L. O. Aside from questions of law, on which only the highest court has the privilege of guessing right, as a rule both the field and office contention are defensible when the proposition is considered from that particular viewpoint, and with such light as the office or the field, as the case may be, has on the subject at the time.

For instance, a surveyor is directed to return to the field to revise or correct his work; sometimes the mistake is clearly apparent and there is no question as to the propriety of the action taken; at other times, however, there is an equally clear difference of opinion; the surveyor may think the accuracy of his work has been unjustly questioned, that there is a prejudice against him on the part of somebody in the office, or that his record is being subjected to underserved disparagement. The chances are that the office man took an entirely impersonal view of the whole situation, with the purpose only of securing proper conformity to established standards, notwithstanding the action taken may appear, particularly from the standpoint of the field man, to be over-technical or impractical. Yet each was doubtless doing his duty as he saw it, and it is not unlikely that had they exchanged places the result would have been the same.

Another example; a special agent in the field has investigated a case and made his report, as a result of which proceedings are





directed, hearing had and finally the office reaches a decision in favor of the defendant. The agent may have put his very best effort into the case; he was on the ground and saw the land and people; he came to have well-settled convictions as to whom to believe and whom not to believe. Then when the case is decided against the Government, he feels that his entire action and judgment in the matter has been discredited; he has undergone unpleasant criticism and perhaps subjected himself to dislike in the community in an honest effort to enforce the law; if the Government will not believe its own disinterested representatives, then what's the use; how can G. L. O. expect to enforce the law and prevent fraud if it will not stand behind its own men. Yet, the office examiner has doubtless made a cold-blooded, searching and critical examination of the record submitted to him with a view to giving due and proper weight to every particle of evidence presented and with the purpose of doing exact justice as between the parties, as their rights are disclosed by the record; he has endeavored to rid his mind of any extraneous influence or prejudice; he does not know the parties; he has no interest in the outcome of the case except to decide it right, and he knows his findings and conclusions must stand the fire of the reviewing officers and finally the Commissioner or Secretary, who are all quick to question any doubtful point. In fact the chances are ten to one that if the special agent were transferred to the office he would decide the case the same way. Again, it is simply a difference of viewpoint.

Then too in the matter of reports and statistics, no doubt some of the field officers conclude that G. L. O. has some curious-minded clerk assigned to the sole duty of thinking up things to ask for reports and statistics about, so that if perchance there should be a spare minute in the field office it can be spent in making up reports and statistics; then after they are compiled G. L. O. not infrequently insists and persists in returning them for revision or correction with the gentle reminder that reference to line 7, of paragraph 13, of Circular 321 of March 3, 1876, as modified and supplemented by certain and divers other cited circulars, will show what the trouble is, until the field office comes to the conclusion that G. L. O. is simply wound up and floundering around in its own red tape. And when after painstaking effort a good piece of work is sent in, if somebody would only so much as say 'thank you' even in an undertone, it would be such a satisfaction. But they who make the reports are doubtless not aware that if some appreciative human sort of a clerk should seek to inject a bit of personal "gush" into the letter of acknowledgment, the reviewing officers would forthwith pounce upon him and want to know whether in the name of all the ancient and honored precedents of the G. L. O. he was trying to write an official business letter, or an article for a woman's magazine. But let us step inside and look out for a minute. G. L. O. must have the record straight before it acts. Some very bitter experiences have taught G. L. O. that the straight and narrow path is the only one to follow; otherwise there is likely to be an embarrassing comeback. G. L. O. knows how undependable are some of the old accounts and statistics and the necessity of reducing all such work to a basis of absolute





reliability. G. L. O. must audit the accounts of this office and more than 120 branch offices, doing a business aggregating more than ten millions of dollars a year, and must keep the statistics showing in detail the progress of the public-land business of the United States. G. L. O. must furnish all manner of information and data for Congress and the public, which is usually wanted in about fifteen minutes; and if it can not be furnished, then what's the matter, don't the Land Office know what it is about. And so, G.L. O. must know; the record in cases decided must be air tight and complete; the accounts and statistics must be uniform, accurate, dependable; there can be no guess work about it; and to a large extent the data and information must come from the field office.

These illustrations are only a few of many that might be given, but they are fairly representative of the field wherein fair minds may differ; it is matters of this kind that are most productive of a lack of respect for the other fellow's opinion and possibly a feeling of resentment. The personal equation enters most largely into our work than many of us realize, notwithstanding we are dealing with specific facts, laws and regulations. Early training, education, local environment and personal or community interest all have a tremendous influence in molding the viewpoint from which we consider most questions. The great thing is to get the other fellow's viewpoint, to ascertain what he is seeking to accomplish and why; if we can do so, frequently it explains many things and the end sought becomes more reasonable and apparent. This is all demonstrated right along as we bring field employees to the office or transfer office men to the field; the better understanding we are able to get of the other fellow's purposes and viewpoint, the more satisfactory and successful becomes our work, both to ourselves and to the public whom we serve.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

General Land Office.- Charles G. Benson, of Georgia, clerk at \$1200, by reinstatement.

Miss Daisy E. Leonard, of Illinois, and Miss Hazel A. MacDonald, of Massachusetts, copyists at \$720.

Henry M. Smith, of Missouri, and Irby V. Reed, of Alabama, skilled laborers at \$660.

Field Service.- Joseph Jensen, of Utah, surveyor for the inspection of mineral deposits at \$2000.

### Transfers.

General Land Office.- Frank P. Tschanner, of Oklahoma, from land law clerk in the land office at Bellefourche, South Dakota, to clerk at \$1400.

William J. Schuttrumpf, of South Dakota, from clerk of class two at \$1400 to the Office of the Secretary.

Benjamin Kebesky, of Virginia, to the Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service.

Field Service.- Wendell H. Wasner, of Ohio, from field examiner in the Civil Service Commission, to special agent at \$1320.

Daniel J. Geiman, of the District of Columbia, from the office of the Chief of the Helena Field Division, to special agent at \$1320.

Logging Service.- John D. Caldwell, of Wisconsin, from timber cruiser at \$1320 to superintendent of logging on ceded Chippewa Indian lands in Minnesota, at \$6. per diem.

Surveyors General.- John H. Hinrichsen, of Colorado, from office Surveyor General California to draftsman at \$1360 office Surveyor General New Mexico.





Transfers.

Surveyors General.- Miss Aline Phillips, of California, from copyist-topographic-draftsman office Surveyor General, New Mexico, to same at \$1200, office Surveyor General, California.

Promotions.

General Land Office.- James F. Casey, of Louisiana, to law examiner at \$1800.

Benjamin W. McLaughlin, of Connecticut, to law examiner at \$1600.

George A. Daidy, of Massachusetts, to clerk of class three at \$1600.

Fielding A. Chappell, of Indiana, Frank P. Farley, of Kentucky, and Donald B. Clement, of Minnesota, to clerks of class two at \$1400.

Miss Mary L. Frampton, of Pennsylvania, Miss Amelia A. Homan, of Missouri, Thomas B. Tuohy, of Pennsylvania, and Charles N. Willard, of Kansas, to clerks of class one at \$1200.

Francis M. Blehr, of Minnesota, Miss Sylvia Morgan, of West Virginia, Edward J. Conover, of New York, Miss Josephine S. Simmons, of California, Alfred C. England, of Virginia, and Miss Sarah Zaontz, of Massachusetts, to clerks at \$1000.

Miss Olive L. Bessler, of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Goldie G. Miller, of New York, John R. McCormack, of Arkansas, William Marsh, of New York, and Henry K. Dinan, of New Hampshire, to copyists at \$900.

Claude A. Nolen, of Texas, to assistant messenger at \$720.

Clyde G. Phelps, of Missouri, to packer at \$720.

Field Service.- Harry E. Laughlin, of Indiana, to special agent and chief of field division at \$2200.

Local Office.- George H. Bolt, of Maryland, stenographer and typewriter in the land office at Billings, Montana, to \$1200.





### Resignations.

General Land Office.- George A. Degenhardt, of Pennsylvania, clerk at \$1200.

Field Service.- Jacob M. Borochoff, of Georgis, special agent at \$1200.

Mortimer A. Sears, of New York, surveyor for the inspection of mineral deposits, at \$1800.

Surveying Service.- Lee S. Miller, of Colorado, transitman at \$170. per month.

James Cook, of Washington, transitman at \$100. per month.

Local Office.- Max C. Haskell, of Minnesota, typewriter at \$1020 land office Minot, North Dakota.

Frank Grygla, of Minnesota, clerk at \$1320, land office Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Harry D. Smith, of Illinois, clerk at \$1260, land office Hailey, Idaho.

Rex R. Taggart, of Kansas, typewriter at \$1200, land office Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Myron S. Hibbard, of Colorado, clerk at \$1440, land office Glasgow, Montana.

### Reappointments.

Local Office.- Onias C. Skinner, Register, Montrose, Colorado.

Samuel Butler, Receiver, Sacramento, California.

Frank O. Williams, Register, Kalispell, Montana.

Luren A. Booth, Receiver, The Dalles, Oregon.

Nolan Skiff, Receiver, La Grande, Oregon.

H. Frank Woodcock, Register, The Dalles, Oregon.

Sam Mothershead, Receiver, Burns, Oregon.

William A. Maxwell, Receiver, Denver, Colorado.

Harry J. Kelly, Register, Lewistown, Montana.





### OBITUARY.

It is with regret that the office announces the death on June 9th of Mr. Richard Shelley. Mr. Shelley had served in the General Land Office since 1907, having been transferred from the War Department.

### AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The Supreme Court, in the case of Andrew West vs. Edward Rutledge Timber Company and Northern Pacific Railway Company, on May 21, 1917, rendered a decision of more than usual interest to the land service and public land claimants.

The case involved a selection made by the railway company under the Mount Rainer act of March 2, 1899 (30 Stat, 993), which, among other things, requires that the lands selected shall be "non-mineral public lands, so classified as non-mineral at the time of actual government survey", and further "in case the land so selected at the time of selection be unsurveyed, the list filed by the company shall describe such tract in such manner as to designate the same with a reasonable degree of certainty", also providing that after survey a new selection shall be filed by the company in conformity therewith.

It was urged by the plaintiff: (1) That the grant was made to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and could not be taken advantage of by its successor, the Northern Pacific Railway Company. (2) That the lands selected were not classified as non-mineral at the time of government survey. (3) That the lands were not described in the selection "with a reasonable certainty" so as to bar the rights of settlers in good faith without actual or constructive notice.

The court held against all these contentions, saying as to the first:

"It may be, as said by the district court, a matter of speculation why the railroad company rather than the railway company was named as grantee, but it is certain it was done in recognition of rights and not in mere jugglery to obtain lands for the National Park and convey nothing to either company in return--nothing to the railroad company because, according to the contention, it had gone out of existence; nothing to the railway company because, according to the contention, it had not succeeded to the rights of the railroad company. On the contrary, we must assume that the act was passed and the railroad company selected to consummate the exchange either by itself or by its successor, the railway company, or by both. And this was done and the two companies and the trustees of the railway company's mortgage joined in a deed of reconveyance to the United States. And this purpose of the act and what was done under was recognized by the Land Department!"





(Citing a number of Departmental decisions).

As to the second point, the court said:

"As we have seen, the right was to select 'an equal quantity of non-mineral public lands, so classified as non-mineral at the time of actual survey.' The lands are in fact non-mineral, but the contention is that they were not so classified at the time of actual survey. The deputy surveyor who made the survey reported that the lands, if cleared, would be suitable for grazing, but at the time of the report were more valuable for their timber. This, it is contended, is not a classification of the lands as non-mineral, that it was not a classification but an omission to classify--negative, not affirmative; inferential, not positive--and therefore not a compliance with the statute. We cannot concur. The report was accepted by the department as a description of the lands as non-mineral. They could be made suitable for grazing, was the report; pending that time they were more valuable for their timber. There was positive description of their character; words excluding some other character were not necessary. Classification is characterization through the selection of some quality or feature, and therefore lands may be classified as pasture (grazing), timber, arable or mineral. It is determined by surface indications. Minerals may be hidden under any surface, but a surveyor is not expected to explore for them that he may include or exclude reference to them in his reports. Such character is exceptional, besides, and considered by the land office as absent if not noted" (Citing Departmental decisions.)

As to the third point, the court held:

"The lands, we have seen, were designated by sectional number, township and range, and it is contended that such designation--'terms of future survey', as counsel term it--was not a description 'with a reasonable degree of certainty.'

This seems to have been the only contention submitted to the Court of Appeals and upon careful consideration the court decided against the contention upon the act of 1899, and, in analogy, upon other acts of Congress in relation to the public lands and also upon the rules and decisions of the Land Department. It is not necessary to repeat the reasoning of the court. What was a description having 'a reasonable degree of certainty' was to be determined by the circumstances. It was in the nature of a question of fact and had tests for decision, as the Court of Appeals pointed out. It has the aid of an adjoining survey and the lands could be readily located from such survey. It was pointed out that the act of Congress did not require exactness; it contemplated a subsequent readjustment. 'The filing of the first list is in a sense preliminary to obtaining the patent. It initiates the right, and not as much particularity and exactness is ordinarily required as where final stages are to





be observed in clearing up and completing the transaction. In fact, by contemplation of the statute, the new selection is required to conform with the established survey and thus to correct the description in the primary selection. By reasonable intentment, therefore, we are impressed that the description contained in the railway company's list No. 61, under the conditions prevailing of the survey of township 45 to the north and the proximity of the land in question thereto, designated the land with a reasonable degree of certainty, and must be held sufficient as a matter of law."

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALASKA COAL FIELDS.

In view of the possible needs of the Government railroad, and to stimulate development of other tracts by private parties, the Secretary of the Interior, on the eighth ultimo, directed the Chairman of the Alaskan Engineering Commission to open up at once the coal deposits in Leasing Block No. 12, in the Matanuska coal field. The Secretary announces his intention of ultimately leasing this unit, if it shall turn out that it is not needed for the use of the Government railroad. In pursuance of this plan, the Secretary submitted a proclamation for the reservation of Leasing Block No. 12, which was signed by the President, June eighteenth.

#### MATANUSKA COAL LAND LEASES.

Of the several applications filed for leases in the Matanuska field under the regulations governing the leasing of coal lands in the Territory of Alaska, approved May 18, 1916, favorable action has been taken by the Government on three of them.

Mr. William Martin, the successful applicant for leasing unit No. 7, has been mining coal from this tract since January 15, of this year, under the corporate name of the Eska Creek Coal Company. This unit embraces 600 acres on Eska Creek, in sections 8, 9 and 16, T. 19 N., R. 3 E., S. M. The total output of the mine to date is 3003 tons, all of which has been shipped over the Government railroad to Anchorage. There are fifty laborers and coal miners at present employed at this mine. The average daily production is approximately 40 tons. A spur track, 2.6 miles in length, was recently constructed by the Commission, connecting the mine with the Matanuska branch line, thus affording an economical haulage from the mine to the market at Anchorage and way stations. Previous to building the spur the coal was hauled by team to the railroad at much expense.

Units 2 and 3, embracing 1400 acres on Moose Creek, in sections 22, 23, 26 and 27, T. 19 N., R. 2 E., S. M., have been awarded to Mr. Oliver LaDuke and associates, among the latter being Messrs. Chauncey C. Harvey and Frank L. Green of 62 Pike St., Seattle. Mr. LaDuke





commenced development work recently on this property, and has a force of eight men assisting him. The work so far consists in stripping the coal outcrops and in driving a cross-cut tunnel to tap a part of the coal bed.

Units 10 and 11, embracing 1440 acres, situated near Chickaloon, in sections 22 to 27, T. 20 N., R. 3 E., S. M., have been leased to Mr. Lars Netland of No. 620 Fifty-ninth St., Oakland, Cal. The plans for the development of this lease have not yet been made public.

Since August, 1916, the Doherty Coal Company has been operating a mine at Moose Creek, in section 2, T. 18 N., R. 2 E., S. M., under a free use permit embracing 10 acres. The permittees have furnished the Alaskan Engineering Commission with 12,081 tons of coal since operations began, in addition to shipping a considerable tonnage to the town of Anchorage for use of the residents of that place. There are 40 men at present employed at the Doherty mine.

Alaska Railroad Record.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

##### The Liberty Loan.

Subscriptions to the Liberty Loan by the Field Surveying Service reported to June 21st amount to \$8800. The total subscriptions by this Service, however, will probably be considerably larger as no district has as yet sent in complete returns and four of the ten districts have not been heard from at all.

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District No. 2, including the Supervisor's office now leads in amount of subscriptions to the Loan with \$2,500; recent returns having sent it slightly ahead of the Eastern District. District No. 3 held the lead for a few days last week until the report from the Eastern District was received.

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One of the patriotic responses to the call was from a double party in District No. 3. The Chief of party, his associate surveyor and their nine field assistants each subscribed for a Liberty Bond. Quite a number of field assistants throughout the service have arranged to purchase Bonds.

#### RED CROSS

The Red Cross Fund is also being generously subscribed to by members of the Field Surveying Service. No record has been kept of the persons contributing or of the amounts contributed, but from present





indications it looks as if a great majority if not practically every member of the Service will have done something to aid the cause.

One effective and patriotic form of contribution is that adopted by a chief of party in District No. 2, who took up a collection in his camp and forwarded his check for the amount to the Assistant Supervisor of the district for transmittal to the Red Cross on behalf of the Surveying party of which he is chief.

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The unusual fall of snow in the Rocky Mountains during the past winter and spring, the lateness of the season and the exceptionally warm wave of the past three weeks are responsible for the unprecedented high waters in many of the streams and the consequent floods in the valleys. The damage to roads and bridges while causing no end of inconvenience and trouble to the surveying parties has not materially delayed the progress of the work.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for district No. 5 (Arizona and California) has been seriously ill, but recent reports from Phoenix indicate that he is rapidly recovering, and will be up and about in a few days.

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S. W. Goodale, Law Examiner, detailed to examine offices of Surveyors General and local land offices, is now on a tour of inspection in the northwest. Mr. Goodale has already visited Reno, Salt Lake City, Helena, Boise and Portland. He expects to return to San Francisco early in July and prepare reports of his investigations.

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J. Scott Harrison, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 1 (Montana) has returned to Helena from a trip of inspection through the eastern part of his district.

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Herman Jaeckel, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 2 (Colorado & Wyoming) is back for a few days from a visit to the surveying camps in his district. He reports satisfactory progress, but much inconvenience from high water

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Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys, has recently resumed surveys on the Grand Portage Indian Reservation, Minnesota,





with Earl G. Harrington as chief of party and Carl Dyson as associate.

Surveys on the Leech and Cass Lake Reservations, Minnesota, will be commenced during July.

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The surveyors and transitmen on detail in Washington, D. C., terminated their services in the Surveying Division of the office on June 30th and were assigned to the Field Surveying Service as follows:

Albinus N. Kimmell, William H. Richards, Jr., and Albert Smith, Jr., to the Eastern District.

Guy H. Richardson, Hargraves Wood, and Alton O. Stinson to District No. 1 (Montana).

Fred W. Rodolf to district No. 8 (Oregon & Washington).

William C. Perkins to District No. 4 (New Mexico).

William R. Johnston, who has been retransferred to the Field Surveying Service, has been assigned to the Eastern District.

Howard R. Farnsworth, who has been on detail in Washington, D.C., has been transferred from the Field Surveying Service to the home office for duty in the Surveying Division.

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E. P. Rands, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 8 (Oregon & Washington) has had a busy time during the past six weeks in organizing and outfitting Oregon and Washington parties for the Oregon & California Grant Land surveys in Oregon and the state lands in Washington. He predicts an unusually busy season.

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The fourteen government owned horses shipped from Alaska last fall to Washington state for the winter were reshipped to Alaska this spring. The animals were in splendid physical condition at the time of shipment and should give a good account of themselves this summer.

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Otis Ross, U. S. Surveyor and A. J. Bradford, Transitman, of District No. 9 (Alaska), have been admitted to the officers' training camp at the Presidio, San Francisco.

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Geo. D. D. Kirkpatrick, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 6: (Nevada and Utah), has returned to Salt Lake from a tour of inspection in his district. He recently spent a week with the surveyors on Duchesne Townsite.

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A. E. Compton, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for New Mexico has returned to Santa Fe from the southern part of his district. He visited El Paso for the purpose of consulting with Reclamation Service officials on the subject of resurveys of lands under the Rio Grande project.

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N. B. Sweitzer, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 3 (Nebraska & South Dakota) predicts a busy season for himself and parties. Much of his work this year will consist of fragmentary surveys in Nebraska and South Dakota.

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Alaska surveys are about current with the demand. John F. Walker, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, reports he could use a much larger allotment on the survey of agricultural lands, but that he has been able to meet all requirements so far with the usual allotment.

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John G. Collins, Transitman, of District No. 8 (Oregon & Washington) has been admitted to the Officers' training camp at the Presidio, San Francisco.

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Frank S. Spofford, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, for District No. 7 (Idaho) has nine well equipped parties in the field and hopes to be able to add several additional parties to his organization in a few days.

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Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, returned to Denver from his trip of inspection through the northwest early in June.

#### SETTLEMENT ON LANDS RESTORED TO ENTRY.

A decision rendered by the Secretary of the Interior March 17, 1917, which has just become final in the case of California and Oregon





Land Company against William Hulen and Ulysses I. Hunnicutt is of more than usual interest, especially to intending settlers.

The lands involved were at one time embraced in patented entries subsequently canceled by decree of court. The local officers were thereafter advised by the Commissioner that the decrees of cancellation had been recorded, that on a date thirty days later they would note the restoration of the lands upon the records of their office, and thereupon such lands would be subject to appropriation under the public land laws.

Thereafter, and within twenty days of the day so fixed by the Commissioner, in accordance with circular regulations (No. 324), May 22, 1914 (43 L. D., 254), the defendants presented application to make homestead entry of these lands and the plaintiff to make a forest lieu selection thereof. Inasmuch as the defendants alleged prior settlement, the local officers allowed their applications and rejected the forest lieu selection, and the Commissioner affirmed such action.

The decision proceeds: -

"The Commissioner's decision is based on the assumption that the lands became subject to settlement when the prior patents were canceled by the court decree. In this he erred. The correct rule is that when a decree canceling a land patent becomes finally effective, the patented lands are thereby restored to the public domain, but they are not thereby restored to appropriation until the local officers are instructed by the Commissioner that the lands are restored to entry and have, in accordance with instructions, made notation of restoration upon the records of the local office. See cases of Hiram M. Hamilton (38 L. D., 597) and Sarah V. White (40 L. D., 630). In the latter case it was held -

'By a final decree of cancellation of patent, land once patented becomes part of the public domain subject to settlement . . . . ., if unappropriated, but does not become subject to entry until opened to entry by the General Land Office.'

The quoted holding was not necessary to the disposition of the case, and the orderly administration of the land laws forbids any departure by the Department from the salutary rule that land segregated from the public domain, whether by patent, reservation, entry, selection, or otherwise, is not subject to settlement or any other form of appropriation until its restoration to the public domain is noted upon the records of the local land office. So much of the White decision as holds to the contrary is overruled.

It follows that, instead of recognizing any claim of prior settlement, a drawing should have been had, as directed by paragraph 4 of the regulations of May 22, 1914, supra."





## CO-OPERATIVE VEGETABLE GARDENS.

In response to the recent appeal of President Wilson emphasizing the importance of all citizens of the Nation aiding in the production of foodstuffs, the Land and Industrial Department has set aside the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Block 27, Anchorage Townsite, for garden purposes and this tract will be cultivated by Government employees resident in the town. Among those who have signified their intention to maintain vegetable gardens are the following: Austin Fields, R. D. Chase, William B. Clayton, E. T. Lindner, Dr. C. C. Benedict, F. C. Kobely, R. S. Temme, F. U. Mayhew, W. T. Gill, E. R. McFarland and George D. Beaumont.

These employees intend to organize themselves into an association for the purpose of carrying on the work systematically so that the maximum results may be obtained. The Commission has already plowed the tract and a fence will be erected around the block immediately to protect the gardens from the depredations of animals. The soil appears to be admirably adapted for the raising of potatoes, cabbage, radishes and similar vegetables.

One of the most important military duties that will rest upon the people of the United States in the conduct of the war will be to produce a surplus of food. We must have enough not only to meet our own proper needs at home, but also to aid in feeding the armies and civil populations of the countries with whom we have allied ourselves.

Every vacant lot within a convenient distance should be utilized to the fullest extent for the raising of vegetables suitable to the soil and climate.

Alaska Railroad Record.

## THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

Washington, D. C.

May 31, 1917.

Mrs. Cook,  
President Department of the Interior Red Cross Unit,  
Interior Department, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Cook:

May I express through you as President of the Interior Red Cross Unit the gratitude and appreciation of the District Chapter of the American Red Cross for the splendid showing in membership made by the Interior Department and for the \$3,000 received for the same? This is a fine expression of patriotism and one that will not only be productive of direct results in the way of relieving suffering humanity but





will be an example to many others that I trust will be followed.

May I express also, as an officer of the District Chapter, my personal appreciation of the interest shown in the Red Cross work by the officers and members of the Interior Department Red Cross Unit?

Yours Sincerely

MABEL BOARDMAN.

#### COLORADO NATIONAL FOREST.

By proclamation of June 12, a large addition was made to the Colorado National Forest, Colorado, under the special act of September 8, 1916 (39 Stat., 848), the lands having been reported by the Secretary of Agriculture to be chiefly valuable for the production of timber or the protection of stream flow. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to allow additional entries under section three of the enlarged homestead act as amended by the act of March 3, 1915 (38 Stat., 956), within the areas added to the Forest under the act of September 8, 1916.

The lands so included in the Forest aggregate 539,517 acres, a considerable portion of such area being embraced in final and pending entries, and are located along the northern and eastern boundaries of the Forest in Larimer, Boulder, Gilpin and Jefferson counties and were temporarily withdrawn by executive order of October 2, 1916, pending classification.

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#### SLOW BUT SURE

In the fall of 1872, little 18-year old Mary Evans came to the mountains of Placer County, California, as the bride of Oliver Henderson, who had taken up a claim the year before and prepared a home near Yankee Jim's. The couple lived there together until Oliver's death a few years ago; Mary continued her home on the place and has lately submitted proof on the claim as a widow of sixty-four, and patent will shortly issue to her. These little romances are hidden here and there among the dry-as-dust records of our office.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

The recent examination for surveyor and transitmen, resulted in an eligible list of twenty, from which appointments as transitmen at \$100.00 per month will be made.

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Two townsites on the Flathead Indian Reservation, formerly named Charlotte and Flathead, now Tabor and Pablo, have been surveyed,





together with two terminal yards for the Great Northern Railway, and a hotel site, in Glacier National Park, Montana.

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The survey of the townsite of Duchesne, Utah, has been completed, and the townsite will be opened on schedule time. This work was made special all along the line.

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Surveyor L. L. Clement will shortly engage in surveying a group of 25 islands situated in a cluster of lakes in northern Michigan. The islands are very picturesquely located, and were unsurveyed when the surveys of Michigan were executed many years ago. Upon investigation, they were found to be public lands of the United States subject to survey and disposal. Most of them are desired for summer homes.

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The Department of Justice has returned to the General Land Office three lists, duly approved, comprising about 239 desert land entries which were passed by this office as O. K., subject to the approval of the Board of Equitable Adjudication.

This settles a question which has been pending for some 4 or 5 months, during which time the desert land entries subject to Board action have been suspended. The 230 cases which will go to patent this month are the first results of the decision clarifying the situation, and the rest will probably be patented next month.

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The work of restoring withdrawn lands, which has been suspended a number of months, awaiting departmental regulations relative thereto, has been resumed. This month a large number of Carey Act lands will have been restored under the new regulations, and next month, it is hoped that all lands subject to restoration will be opened to entry.

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Regulations are in course of preparation for the public sale at the local land office at Portland, Oregon, in August next, of five sections of timber land in the former Siletz Indian Reservation. These five sections had been set aside as a timber reserve, and by recent act of Congress are to be sold for the benefit of the Indians. A government cruise of the lands indicates that there are 170,620,000 feet of timber on these five sections, the greater portion of which is Douglas fir. The lands and the timber are to be sold together.

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The President has turned over to the Interior Department, as no longer needed for military purposes, the military reservation of Bayside (Point Comfort), New Jersey. This reservation contains 25.734 acres, and is located in Monmouth County, New Jersey. The lands are to be surveyed and appraised, preparatory to a public sale for cash to the highest bidders.

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Regulations for the sale of a few tracts of land within the former Rosebud Indian Reservation, in Gregory County, South Dakota, were approved by the Department on June 15, 1917. These lands are to be sold for cash to the highest bidders at the local land office at Gregory, S. D. on August 6, 1917, at 11 A. M., provided they are not then embraced in any valid existing right or reserved or withdrawn for any purpose. The lands embrace five tracts.

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A sale of town lots took place in the townsite of Zurich, Montana, on June 23, 1917, in the Milk River Irrigation Project.

Sales of town lots have been ordered in the townsites of Powell and Deaver in the Shoshone Irrigation Project in Wyoming. The sale at Powell will take place on July 24. The date for the sale at Deaver has not yet been fixed.

Sales of town lots have also been ordered in the townsite of Duchesne in the Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah, to take place on July 2, 1917, and in the townsites of Dupree and Timber Lake in the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, said sales to be held at Timber Lake on July 10, 1917.

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Telegraphic report from Provo, Utah, dated June 27, announces the sale of Uintah Indian lands, left over from two previous offerings, amounts to 160,000 acres, with receipts at about \$125,000. This is approximately an excess of \$45,000 over the minimum price.

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Seventy applications to purchase "ten chain lots" in Imperial County, California, under the act of March 3, 1909 (35 Stat., 779), have been approved for patenting; the purchase price amounting to \$8,531.20, and it is anticipated that the pending applications will produce at least as much.

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AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The General Land Office furnished five graduates of the law schools this year, Miss Julia Banks, Miss Ruth Levey, and Mr. Zebulon C. Camp from the Washington College of Law; Mr. Oscar Bancroft and Mr. M. V. Livingston, from the National University Law School. The Bulletin extends its congratulations both to the graduates and to the land service.

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Mr. D. W. Eaton, who came to the Survey Division six months ago from the International Boundary Commission, has been appointed to field duty as associate transitman, and will leave about July 1st for a western assignment.

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George L. Armstrong, special agent assigned to Fairbanks, Alaska, and who holds a commission as Major in the Reserve Army, has been ordered to active service under the War Department.

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The marriage of Miss Fannie Ruth Johnston and Mr. William Caleb Wood, on Sunday, June 3, 1917, at Frankville, Alabama, is announced.

Mr. Wood has been connected with the Field Service of the General Land Office for a number of years as timber cruiser. The announcement cards state: "At Home after July fifteenth, 226 34th Street, Norfolk, Virginia".

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Captain H. W. MacFarren, formerly mineral inspector in the Santa Fe, New Mexico, field division, who has been in the training camp at the Presidio, San Francisco, recently called at field division headquarters in that city and reports that he is leaving for Vancouver Barracks for further training in the Engineer Corps of the Army.

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Mr. T. J. Butler, formerly law-examiner in the General Land Office, is now engaged in law practice, 343 Monadnock Building, San Francisco, being associated with former Attorney General Hart, of California.

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### PROOF TAKING OFFICERS.

The commissioner in several of his annual reports has suggested legislation authorizing the submission of final proofs on the land for which the proof is made, before a special officer, after due publication in the manner now required by law. The lessened expense to the claimant, the advantage of a report made by the officer as to the situation on the ground, and the consequent reduction of later field inquiry, have seemed excellent reasons for the adoption of the plan; but thus far no practical results have followed these suggestions.

The Bulletin invites expression of opinion on this subject, believing it to be a matter of general interest to the land service and public land claimants.

### THE LAND DECISIONS.

The first volume of the Decisions of the Secretary of the Interior Relating to Public Lands was issued in June, 1883, covering the leading land decisions of the Department from March 4, 1881, the beginning of that administration, to the date of issue, with the announced intention to continue the publication thereafter at stated periods. This publication, therefore, has just passed its thirty-fourth birthday, with forty-four volumes complete and the forty-fifth nearing completion.

Prior to the Land Decisions the Department was dependent upon private enterprise for the publication of its decisions, opinions, or instructions relative to the public lands. In April, 1874, "Copp's Land Owner", a monthly quarto pamphlet, published in Washington, made its appearance, containing decisions of the Department, and of the General Land Office, also circulars and instructions, as well as current acts of Congress bearing upon the disposition of the public domain. This publication, together with "Brainerd's Legal Precedents", published at about the same time, was practically the general dependence of attorneys practising before the Land Department, as well as others, for a knowledge of current proceedings affecting the public domain, and so remained until the publication of the "Land Decisions."

The part that our "Land Decisions" has taken in the general development of the system of public land laws, as well as the principles of jurisprudence attendant thereupon, can not be over-estimated; and the present value of the publication in the administration of our public land laws should never be overlooked. A careful study of the "L.D.'s." will amply repay everyone interested in either the past or present disposition of the public domain. The history of our public land laws, the decisions of the courts construing the same, as well as those of the Department, will be found within their pages. No one charged with the duty of construing and applying the provisions of an act of Congress authorizing the disposition of the public lands, can afford to let this means of information go unused.





## THE MAN AND THE JOB.

Intelligence is a hard thing to conceal. A man may look better than his job; he may feel very much so, but both looks and feelings in such case, are usually due to the fact that he does not know his job.

The dignity of labor arises from an appreciation of its value in the general scheme of human development. Neither earth nor man were perfect, when man took over the earth on a claim of possessory title; but acting and reacting each upon the other, he sees now and then,, a faint glimmer of the great ultimate purpose. So then, the better we know our work, the better it will be done; the better we know each other, the stronger the community of purpose.

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## TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local office and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin". All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

August 1, 1917.

No. 6.

## CIVIL VS. MILITARY DUTY.

It is related that one of the instructors in an officers' training camp, on dismissing a number of unpromising candidates, reminded them that good farmers might contribute quite as much as good soldiers toward breaking the Von Hindenburg line. So it is in every line of endeavor. More of us are bound to stay at home than go into the military or naval establishments but our duty and the service we can render are no less certain or needful. Never before did war necessitate such a mobilization of every resource and activity of the nation. Notwithstanding that millions of men and women are to be withdrawn from the various industries and occupations for war purposes, it is up to us who remain to keep the wheels turning and get the work and business of the country done just the same. This is true in a marked degree in the Government service, and particularly in the Land Service. Many in the service have gone to various training camps and this number will soon be augmented; the rapid change in conditions has resulted in many other changes in personnel, resulting in turn in many new inexperienced employees. The attitude of the office has been to encourage and facilitate these changes wherever practical. But we must keep clearly in mind the fact that for us who are not called to the military service it is just as much a part of the public defense to get our work done and do it well even though we are shorthanded. There is no more room for slackers in the civil than in the military service. This is no time for long leaves or short hours, or a mental attitude of "I should worry." Each has his part to do and his contribution to make, even though it be small. Never before was the necessity greater for facilitating in every possible way, from surveys to patents, the settlement

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and use of public lands for the production of food stuffs and minerals. Let us see to it that this Bureau is not a stumbling block or an obstacle by reason of dilatory methods or congestion of business in this great crisis, which requires the employment of every resource that can be utilized. The French slogan in the defense of Paris was: "They shall not pass;" let the watchword of us who remain at home to keep the country going be: "The work must be done."





## IN MEMORY OF THE LATE BO SWEENEY

Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Since our last issue the Department has been called upon to mourn the loss, in death, of its late Assistant Secretary, the Honorable Bo Sweeney, which occurred in this city on the 16th instant.

By unanimous consent the House of Representatives, on the 23rd instant, listened to an address by the Honorable John F. Miller of Washington, on the life and character of the late Assistant Secretary, from which the Bulletin makes the following extracts as a fitting tribute to the life and services of a useful public servant:

"Mr. Sweeney was essentially a man out of the West. He loved the mountains; he longed to be in the hills of the great, far West. That had been his home since almost boyhood, and it was from these he came to the Nation's Capital to do his duty here, as he had always done it amidst his friends at home.

"Born on a farm near Clinton, in Henry County, Missouri, in the year 1863 - a year not noted for gentleness and sentiment - he grew to young manhood in Missouri and Texas. His boyhood life was not one of easy swing. He was taught to know that the things worth while in life were not extended with lavish hand except to those who should deservedly gain them. He was early taught to appreciate the truism that he who wears the spurs should wear them in the open field.

"In 1897 Mr. Sweeney, following the Star of Empire, came to Seattle in the far Northwest.

"To him it was going from one broad land to another; from the view of one snow-clad range to another. From the first he took a prominent place in the community, socially, professionally, and politically. While always a consistent and unyielding Democrat, he uniformly exercised tolerance and respect for the political opinions of others. I bear witness to this exceptional trait of his character. At the bar he won signal success. Memory comes to my aid in recalling many a hard-fought legal battle, and I can say many of his brethren at the bar still bear scars from his undeniable skill as an advocate. But whether he won or lost he was still the same generous, considerate, and kindly character, never boasting, never cringing, always the same magnanimous and manly man. His attainments of good, pure, Christian manhood will always remain a standard of excellence and be an inspiration for those who believe in the worth of giving and receiving fundamental justice in all intercourse with men. He always stood square to the four winds.





"He had breathed in him the inspiration of the West, of the rugged honesty of the mountains. Schooled in the thought of the West, he brought to this high administrative office all the resources of a busy, proper, and industrious life. He brought activity, which was a part of his very being; he brought enterprise and fair dealing, frankness, and firmness. Every Member of this body feels the loss of the Nation at large, and to those of us who knew the true worth and value of his friendship the loss is keenly personal.

"He was a man thoroughly in love with life; he enjoyed every hour of every day; he loved to look upon the beauties of the world; he loved the mountains, the plains, the fields, and meadows of his land. Death came to him in the very prime of life, at the very hour of his greatest usefulness. It seems strange that it should be so. Perhaps it is better that we do not understand; perhaps it is best that those we love the best should answer when no call has ever come. It is hard for finite men to understand the will of the Infinite.

"At a time in his life, in the beauty of the midday, when eager winds were filling every sail, he heard the breakers on a foreign shore - the other beautiful shore - where each and all must sooner or later moor his bark of life.

"A truly good and able character has gone into the great, unseen world, where the mountains and the waters are of transcendent beauty, gone to the land where the good, the pure, and the faithful shall live and dwell eternal."





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

General Land Office.-- Richard R. Ramsell, of Iowa and Andrew H. Dedeaux of Missouri, copyists, at \$900 and \$720, respectively. Mrs. Cora H. DeSaules, of D. C., copyist \$900, by reinstatement. George W. Boyd, of Virginia, messenger boy at \$480 per annum.

Surveying Service.-- Thomas W. Bates and William A. Tipton, of Idaho, Andrew Nelson, of Utah, transitmen at \$120 per month. Willis Millrick, of Idaho, J. Pierce Dunn, of Washington, Roy T. Campbell, of Oregon, Frank W. Webster, Jr., of Kentucky, Rezin E. Pidgeon, of Montana, Herman F. Mader, of Oregon, Marvin J. Lytle, of Wyoming, Charles F. Moore, of Colorado, Courtney Q. Wheeler, and Barney M. Pellum, of Idaho, Glenn R. Haste, of New Mexico, and Chester W. Pecore, of Washington, transitmen at \$100 per month.

Field Service.-- Carl Imes, of Idaho, special agent at \$1200 assigned to the Portland Field Division, Harry A. Ferris and James H. Hance, special agents at \$1320, assigned to the Santa Fe Field Division. Carl J. Berry, of Montana, John A. McDonald, of California, and Casius C. Smith, mineral examiners, at \$1380 per annum, assigned to the Santa Fe, San Francisco, and Denver Field Divisions, respectively. Miss Florence M. Gallagher, S. & T. \$1140, office chief, San Francisco Field Division.

Local Office.-- Ulys Pyle, of Illinois, land law clerk at \$1080 per annum, land office Lewistown, Montana, by reinstatement. Clarence W. Cook, of Wyoming, S. & T. at \$900, land office, Evanston, Wyoming. Miss Mary E. Graham, of Louisiana, S. & T. at \$900, land office Baton Rouge, Louisiana. William T. Evans, of Oregon, land law clerk at \$1020, land office Rapid City, South Dakota.





Local Office.-

Isadore T. Mishkin, of Illinois, land law clerk at \$900, land office Glasgow, Montana. Henry W. Tucker, of Idaho, land law clerk at \$1020, land office Billings, Montana. Chester A. Marr, of Oklahoma, land law clerk at \$1020, land office Bismarck, North Dakota. Miss Alton Bigelow, of Montana, S. & T. at \$900, land office Bozeman, Montana.

All reappointments.

Samuel Butler, as Receiver at Sacramento, California, commission dated May 17, 1917. William A. Maxwell, as Receiver at Denver, Colorado, commission dated May 29, 1917. Cato D. Glover, as Register at Montgomery, Alabama, commission dated June 27, 1917. Wade H. Fowler, as Register at Douglas, Wyoming, commission dated June 27, 1917. James F. Burgess, as Register at Lakeview, Oregon, commission dated June 27, 1917. Luke Voorhees, as Receiver at Cheyenne, Wyoming, commission dated June 14, 1917. John J. Birdno, as Receiver at Phoenix, Arizona, commission dated June 11, 1917. Ralph R. Read, as Register, at Buffalo, Wyoming, commission dated June 14, 1917. John S. Hunter, as Receiver at Montgomery, Alabama, commission dated June 27, 1917. Edward G. Worth, as Surveyor General, at Portland, Oregon, commission dated July 19, 1917. Edward A. Fitzhenry, as Surveyor General at Olympia, Washington, commission dated July 13, 1917. Lee A. Ruark, as Receiver at Del Norte, Colorado, commission dated July 13, 1917.

Surveyor General.-

Miss Birdie Willard, of Colorado, S. & T. office Surveyor General of New Mexico, at Santa Fe. Norwell E. Hesla, S. & T. at \$1200, office Surveyor General, Oregon, by reinstatement.

Transfers.

General Land Office.-

Mrs. Martha C. Ballard, of Colorado, from chief draftsman office, Surveyor General, Oregon, to this office, assigned to the Surveying Division. Miss Edith M. Custer, of Pennsylvania, clerk at \$1000 from office of the Secretary. Clifford F. Smith of the





District, messenger boy at \$360 by transfer from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Ivan V. Gross, of Pennsylvania, to Internal Revenue Service, Treasury Department. Frank P. Tscharner, of Oklahoma, clerk at \$1440, from the land office at Bellefourche, South Dakota. Carl A. Watne, of North Dakota, from land law clerk in the land office at Rapid City, South Dakota, to copyist at \$900.

Surveying Service.-

Howard R. Farnsworth, of Kansas, from U. S. Surveyor to clerk at \$1400. John D. K. Smoot, of Virginia, from copyist at \$900 to the same in the Office of the Secretary. David W. Eaton, of Missouri, from clerk in the General Land Office to transitman at \$100 per month.

Local Office.-

Oliver T. Lawman, of Kansas, from the land office at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to the Federal Trade Commission.

Field Service.-

Guy M. Salisbury, of Oklahoma, special agent at \$1380 per annum, assigned to the Santa Fe Field Division, by transfer from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Resignations.

General Land Office.-

William L. Kee, of West Virginia, Law examiner, at \$1800 per annum, because of ill health. Mr. Kee's many friends wish for his speedy recovery.

Lawrence L. Dunning, of the District, clerk at \$1000.

Charles Siegel, of the District, messenger boy at \$600.

Miss Mary E. Troy, of Kentucky, copyist at \$720.

Paul I. Bassett, of the District, law examiner at \$1600, because of ill health. His many friends wish for his speedy recovery.

Thomas J. Tydings, of Missouri, clerk at \$1400.

Samuel H. Merritt, of Wisconsin, assistant messenger at \$720.

John S. Calvert, of Virginia, messenger boy at \$600.





Surveying Service.-

Scott P. Stewart, of Utah, and Winfred A. Pray, of Nevada, U. S. Surveyors at \$160 per month. Charles M. Rath, of Wyoming, Surveyor for the Inspection of Mineral Deposits at \$2000 per annum.

Land Service.-

Robert S. Clarke, of Colorado, S. & T. land office Pueblo, Colorado, at \$900. McKinley W. Kriegh, of Kansas, clerk at \$1080 in the land office at Blackfoot, Idaho. Miss Winifred Leppert of Louisiana, clerk at \$1200, land office Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Surveyors General.-

Joseph W. Hall, of Nevada, chief clerk at \$2000, office Surveyor General, Nevada. Edward W. Towne, S. & T. at \$900, office of Surveyor General, Oregon.

353 promotions were made of employees in the entire General Land Office Service on July 1st, and a number have been made since then in statutory positions.

It is regretted that the space in the Bulletin prevents the publication of the names.

OBITUARY.

It is with regret the office announces the receipt of a telegram from the office of the Surveyor General of Utah, stating that Edward G. Pickering had died on July 24th after a brief illness. Mr. Pickering had been connected with the General Land Office service since January 16, 1914.

Mrs. E. J. Lemen of Arkansas City, Kansas, only sister of Harry C. Green, Register of the United States Land Office in Topeka, Kansas, died July 2, 1917, after an illness of two months. Mr. Green was present at the time of her death.

SURVEY NOTES.

The Direct System of Surveys was inaugurated under authority of an act of Congress approved June 25, 1910. The idea, however, was not new. It first appeared in concrete form in the second annual message to Congress of President Cleveland under date of December 3, 1894, as follows:





"The suggestion that a change be made in the manner of securing surveys of the public lands is especially worthy of consideration. I am satisfied that these surveys should be made by a corps of competent surveyors under the immediate control and direction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office."

The present law is drawn along the lines recommended by President Cleveland.

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Two motor trucks for camp transportation purposes were recently purchased for use in District No. 3 (Nebraska and South Dakota). While as yet hardly sufficient time has elapsed to permit of a detailed comparison of their cost and usefulness over horse drawn vehicles every indication points to their success, both in point of economy and in efficiency.

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John P. Walker, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 9, is in southwestern Alaska on survey business.

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Herman Jaeckel, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 2, spent the early part of July in western Colorado with the parties of Rich and Eaton, Wolff, and Voigt. He will shortly leave for the field in Wyoming.

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Ernest P. Rands, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 8, is in northeastern Washington with the field parties in that section of the country.

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The newly appointed transitmen in the Field Surveying Service were assigned to the field as follows: Thomas Walter Bates, Willis J. Millrick, Barney M. Pellum and Courtenay Q. Wheeler, District No. 7; Roy T. Campbell, J. Pierce Dunn, Herman F. Mader and Chester W. Pecore, District No. 8; Glenn R. Haste, District No. 4; Marvin J. Lytle, District No. 2; Charles F. Moore, District No. 1; and Andrew Nelson, District No. 6.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, has entirely recovered from his recent illness and





is now in northern California looking after surveys in that part of the State.

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A greater number of surveys on Indian Reservations in various parts of the country have been authorized this season than in recent years and are receiving their share of attention. Much of the authorized work has been completed in the field, but the greater portion is in process of execution.

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Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys, left Washington July 12th for Walker, Minnesota, with A. N. Kimmell, U. S. Surveyor, and William R. Johnston, U. S. Transitman, to inaugurate the resurvey and remarking of allotment corners on the Leech Lake, Cass Lake, Chippewa, Winnibigoshish and White Oak Point Indian Reservations, Minnesota.

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Earl G. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor, and Carl Dyson, U. S. Transitman, will complete the surveys assigned them on the Grand Portage Reservation early in August and will then be transferred to the Leech Lake group of surveys.

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Surveys on the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation, New Mexico, have been commenced with a single party with Fenwick G. Dorman, U. S. Transitman, in charge. The party will be doubled a little later in the season.

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Arthur W. Brown, U. S. Surveyor, has been assigned to allotment surveys on the Morongo Indian Reservation, California.

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Robert A. Farmer, U. S. Surveyor, completed the surveys assigned him on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, North and South Dakota, on July 20th and was transferred to District No. 2 for fragmentary surveys in Colorado and Wyoming.

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Francis E. Joy, U. S. Surveyor, and Basil C. Perkins, U. S. Transitman, are at present on the Cochito Indian Pueblo, New Mexico, having completed the surveys on the San Domingo Pueblo.





George R. Campbell, U. S. Surveyor, with a single party is executing surveys on the Lumi Reservation, Washington.

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Work is being expedited on the returns recently filed by Ranney Y. Lyman, U. S. Surveyor, of surveys of the townsites of Charlot and Flathead on the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, in order to permit of the sale of lots early in September.

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The resurvey of the boundaries of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Oregon, has been completed in the field.

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The survey of the lands embraced in the Kalispel Indian Reservation, Washington, in Tps. 33 and 34 N., R. 44 E., designated as Group No. 24, Washington, is in process of execution.

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The demand for island surveys is increasing each year, especially in the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, which are studded with almost countless lakes, small lakes, within the borders of which are picturesque islets, left unsurveyed in the original surveys seventy years ago, as worthless, and which are now sought as sites for summer homes.

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The survey of a group of nine islands in the Isle Royale Archipelago, near the western end of Lake Superior in Michigan, has been authorized. These islands are particularly desirable for summer residences, and are for the most part so intended by the applicants for survey.

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

On October 11, 1814, Mr. Josiah Meigs was appointed, by President Madison, the second Commissioner of the General Land Office. At this time ten clerks were constantly employed. In January, 1818, eighteen clerks were employed. In May of 1818, he wrote to Dr. Drake, a particular friend of his, that he had written his name officially at least 50,000 times within six months, and in 1821 he writes him of the increase of public business in his office, it then involving a correspondence with 32 land offices, about 20 of which had been established since he became Commissioner.





Commissioner Meigs was President of Columbian College (now George Washington University) until his death in 1822. The members of the Columbian Institute resolved to wear crape for one month as a mark of respect to his memory, and the clerks in the land office resolved to do the same and attend his funeral in a body.

Meteorology was one of Commissioner Meigs favorite studies. His plan was to have Congress pass a resolution authorizing the President of the United States to cause meteorological registers to be kept at each of the land offices of the United States, under the direction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and that the meteorological observations should be returned monthly to the General Land Office with their official returns. The effort to have the observations taken under the sanction of public authority failed, but Commissioner Meigs did not by any means give up his efforts to advance the interest of meteorologic science. On April 12, 1817, he addressed a circular to the Registers of the Land Offices (which circular is now on file in this office) requesting them to take regularly certain weather observations, and forwarded blanks to them for that purpose. The blanks sent out were prepared for three daily observations of temperature, winds and weather, and contained a column for general observations, wherein the registers were asked to note unusual weather phenomena, facts relating to the time of the migration of birds, the earliest appearance of flowers in the spring, hibernation of animals, seismic disturbances, and anything relating to the antiquities of the country. The observations at the land offices were continued for a few years, and Commissioner Meigs said, in 1819, that the politeness of the registers had enabled him to collect observations for nearly 20 years.

Commissioner Meigs belonged to what was then known as the Republican party and a follower of Jefferson.

His remains lie in Arlington Cemetery.

#### SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE NEW INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING.

The largest Government building in the United States, in square feet.

Occupies the square from 18th to 19th, and from E to F Streets.

Cost of building up to date \$2,500,000. Amount appropriated, \$2,596,000.

Size: 402 feet, 6 inches by 392 feet, 10 inches; seven stories and basement; E shape with basement and two story connecting links south of courts, and two story auditorium and press wings in east court; two story library in west court.





Description: Grade course granite, basement and super-structure including courts and court wings faced with Indiana lime stone, promenade, tile roof covering, except copper roof over library.

Fire proof throughout.

There are, approximately, 5000 windows. Upwards of 20 per cent. of the wall space is glass. In some cases it runs 33 1/3 per cent. The high class school house requirements are 20 per cent. The new building has more glass and light than our best schools.

Typical office type in design; plastered walls and ceilings; cement floors in rooms; terrazzo corridor floors; all plastered surfaces painted.

Contains 1280 units (14 x 20 feet); at present divided into 881 rooms. Contains 3 1/2 miles of corridors.

There are about 5000 electric lighting bulbs in the building.

It houses at present 2068 people.

There are 6 inclosed stairways running from the basement to the top of the building. There are 11 elevators--8 passenger and 3 combination passenger and freight elevators. All run from basement to the top story and are placed near each entrance. Something unusual about the construction is that the elevator shafts are not located near the stairways, which adds to the safety of the officers and employees in case of fire.

The following Bureaus are housed in the building: Secretary's Office; Solicitor's Office; General Land Office; Bureau of Indian Affairs; Geological Survey; Bureau of Mines; National Park Service; Food Commission, temporary; Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, temporary.

The Offices of the Secretary occupy the east wing of the fifth and sixth stories and part of the ground floor.

The Secretary's main and private offices are at the south end of the top floor, and are finished in Elizabethan period, of English oak. The hardware and lighting fixtures are silvered.

The drinking water is cooled by an ammonia plant in the basement and piped to all points of the building kept at a temperature of about 45 degrees; drinking fountains in all corridors at intervals of about 100 feet approximately, and 85 fountains in all.

Contains a fully equipped auditorium, having a seating capacity of about 300, with stage, dressing room, operating room for





moving pictures and other facilities. The auditorium has an automatic heating and ventilating system, the air being washed before entering the room.

Contains a temporary lunch room in the basement with a capacity to serve about 1000 people. A permanent cafe will occupy the entire front wing on the roof, which is hoped to be ready for use in about 6 or 8 months. It will be equipped with the latest in sanitary arrangement and will accommodate the entire personnel of the building.

#### THE LAMAR RIFLE CLUB.

The Bulletin is in receipt of an exceedingly interesting letter from the local officers at Lamar, Colorado, with an account of recent activities in the line of military recruiting in which the Lamar office was largely identified. The entire letter might very well be inserted if space permitted but the extracts below give a very substantial outline of the excellent work done at Lamar.

"We are just completing the novel work, started in April, which we believe is a record for local land offices. Working under an organization known as the Lamar Rifle Club, of which the Register is President, the Receiver is Treasurer and the Chief Clerk is Secretary, we planned and are now finishing our organized campaign for recruits for all branches of the military service.

"Our plan, which has been commented on very favorably by "The Arms and the Man" and "The Army and Navy Journal" as well as several of the local newspapers, was to secure volunteer recruits for the army and navy. We commenced with a big parade, and patriotic speeches by some of our leading citizens. A circular was published in every newspaper in the land district telling the homesteaders the law in regard to enlisting, and informing the public that the Rifle Club had made arrangements with the recruiting officers for both the army and navy, by which men could be examined at the land office without the expense of a trip to Pueblo, or Denver. The various recruiting offices supplied our needs for pictures, circulars and information, and were glad to have us cooperate with them. The services of the Club, with its forty krag rifles, was voted subject to the call of the County Officials as a home guard. We held drill practice for the benefit of the public twice each week. The County Commissioners were called upon, who nobly responded by ordering a bridge on the road to the rifle range, and by donating \$200 to assist the club in its patriotic work. Meetings were arranged in all the neighboring towns at which some of the club members would be present to assist in getting recruits. We invited





correspondence with prospective recruits and promptly answered the large daily mail. We fitted up our contest room with scales and everything to facilitate the recruiting officers' work in the physical examination of the applicants.

"That the plan worked is best shown by the results. Our business was so rushing for a while that it was necessary for the recruiting officers to visit us as often as three times each week, while the militia has had a recruiting officer permanently located with us for the last two months. We herewith inclose a copy of our Roll of Honor which contains the names of 293 men who have been accepted. About 35 others applied but have been rejected. All of the 293 men are recruits, with the exception of 56 men who were in the national guard in Company "D" of this County and who are included in the list.

"The Lamar Rifle Club, N. R. A., was organized about ten months ago, through the efforts of J. E. Brownlee and W. C. Weagar. Four of the land office force belong to the club, and as three of us constitute a quorum of the executive committee, it was very convenient for us to use the club as a means of obtaining results.

"You will notice that our list shows 106 homestead entrymen have enlisted. This does not mean that these men have enlisted to avoid residence on their homesteads. On the contrary, from personal experience with this class of men, we believe that their action was prompted by purely patriotic motives. It also shows the spirit of bravery and the love of adventure which is implanted in the typical homesteader. The fine physical condition of these men, their ability to endure hardships, and their knowledge of firearms should make them soldiers, second to none in the world."

#### THE VALUE OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

The identification cards recently sent out by the Office to members of the Field Surveying Service met with a welcome reception. We know of one member of the service who will probably attach his to a stout cord and sleep with it round his neck. It happened this way: he had just completed a long spell in the field on the southern deserts. For months he had communed with Nature and the horned toad, far from the haunts of men. At night in the light of the desert moon, while reflecting on the strangeness of human events, it had been his wont to let down the bars of his imagination and chase the sportive butterfly o'er the meadows of fancy. In his dreams he lived again in the wonderful





world where all was strife and love and beauty.

And now his dreams were coming true. In due course he arrived one morning in San Francisco en route to his northern field. His train did not leave until midnight. Impelled by a curiosity born of the excitement of the times and fattened on months of rosy anticipation, he drifted out to the Presidio and there under the magic spell of the wonderful setting, soothed by the sound of the sunlit sea and thrilled by the atmosphere of military activity, he felt that he had not lived in vain. His cup of happiness was full to the brim.

But alas! Happiness to be retained must be limited and concentrated and yet how few of us are satisfied in the face of what seems opportunity for more. It surely couldn't hurt to take a few photographs, not of that well known scenery, but of the guns and fortifications, something as a memento of that joyous day, something to show the boys up north. A small earthen fortification near by offered some alluring speculative possibilities. He would photograph it---from the inside. With camera leveled at the frowning guns and bosom swelling with patriotic pride he paused for a moment on the threshold of the works. But only for a moment.

It is told that once upon a time a man was killed by a buzz saw. In his obituary it was stated that he was a good citizen, an upright man and an ardent patriot, but of limited information regarding buzz saws. Our hero knew little of the ways of war and that little contemplated its aesthetic aspect not its cold practicality. While still reflecting on the consequences of the failure of the engineer to blow his whistle -- or had he been hit by a falling skyscraper -- he was called upon to explain why he was not a German spy or an undesirable citizen. After several laborious hours of close examination as to his identity and purpose he was acquitted of the first charge and then turned over to the civil authorities for further investigation of the second.

That's all. The ride down town in the patrol wagon and the subsequent examination were without incident worthy of note.

In the cold gray dawn of a tomorrow, with the mist dimmed lights of San Francisco fast fading into a memory, our hero sped on his way to a less interesting but quieter clime.

MORAL: Sherman was right. Never be without your identification card.





### CONFESSIONS OF A PROOF TAKER.

One of our experienced lady clerks in a local office, writes:

There is no better place to study human nature than in the proof taking room of the average local land office. I have been taking final proof for many years, and while it is about the most monotonous work in the office it has its occasional gleam of humor. I have seen many men come in, big enough to tip over a hay wagon, and simply scared to pieces. Trembling and shaking, perspiration oozing from their hands and faces, lower jaw hanging limp, and their voice lost somewhere near their quaking heart. It is frequently necessary to talk to claimants a little about the crops, weather and so on, to get them down to normal and where their gasps become coherent. However, this type is infinitely preferable to the ones who come airily in, throw their hat on the table, a leg over the arm of the chair, and proceed to tell one the story of their sad, sad life. The worst one of all, to my notion, is the extremely cautious. He has read of the pains and penalties of perjury, and is taking no chances. And whatever you get out of him must be dug out. He will quibble, hedge, evade, sidestep, dodge, double, everything but answer "Yes" or "No." I have developed one method for him alone; I merely repeat the question in an impersonal tone and manner, not hearing any of his excuses and evasions, till he finally gives up and answers the question. I have found many queer things about people, one is that men hesitate more about telling their age than do women, shattering an old established tradition. Generally women make very good witnesses, having their data well in hand, and seldom appear in doubtful proofs. Maybe they have read those perjury laws, too. Another condition seems to persist, whenever a homesteader has deaf friends, he brings them in for witnesses. The dumb, decrepit, and blind add the pathetic touch. And one has a sprinkling of feeble minded ones. About once a year comes the skittish claimant, who takes his testimony off to one side and carefully peruses the printed questions for an hour or so before he will sign or acknowledge it for his own. And the ones who ruminate several minutes over every question we have always with us.

### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

The city of Havre, Montana, has been appointed caretaker of the camping ground, comprising 8,880 acres situated along Beaver Creek in the former Fort Assinniboine abandoned military reservation, Montana. The object of this reservation is to provide a picnic place or camping ground for the public, and the present appointment is intended to preserve the lands for this purpose and to prevent the pollution of the waters of the creek by sheep, and the destruction of fish.





## TOWNSITES.

The public sale of lots in the townsite of Duchesne in the former Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah, took place on the date advertised, July 2, 1917, under the supervision of Mr. John McPhaul, Superintendent of the opening and sale of Indian lands. This town is the county seat of Duchesne County, and claims to be the capital of the Uintah Basin. The growth of the town and its future may be better understood when it is known that the lots sold were comprised in an addition to the original townsite, the sales aggregating 219 lots, the highest selling for \$110, resulting in a total of \$5,095.

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A public sale of lots in Timber Lake and Dupree Townsites, in the former Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, South Dakota, was held by Mr. McPhaul on July 10, 1917.

This was the fourth sale of Timber Lake town lots; 200 lots were sold, for more than \$10,000, one lot selling for \$500, and several others for over \$300.

It was the third sale for the townsite of Dupree, and considering that the sale was not held at the town, but at Timber Lake, the result was gratifying, twenty-five lots selling at an average of \$100, -- double the original appraised price.

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A sale of lots in Inchelium townsite, in the former Colville Indian Reservation, Washington, has been scheduled to take place on August 10, 1917, at the townsite.

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Regulations were issued on July 19, for the sale of lots in the following named townsites in the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, namely: Yellow Bay, August 23; Big Arm, August 25; Camas, August 27; Tabor, September 10; and Pablo, September 13, 1917. The sales will take place at the respective townsites.

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In Zurich townsite in the Milk River Irrigation Project, Montana, 42 lots were sold on June 23, 1917, for \$746.75.





Lots in Powell townsite in the Shoshone Irrigation Project, Wyoming, were ordered to be sold on July 24, 1917. The total number of lots ordered sold was 127.

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Lots in the townsite of Deaver in the Shoshone Irrigation Project, Wyoming, have been surveyed and will probably be sold the last of August or fore part of September.

#### FIRST STOCK DRIVEWAY RESERVATION UNDER ACT DECEMBER 29, 1916.

Secretary Lane on July 23 reserved certain lands, aggregating 6,670 acres, adjoining the San Isabel National Forest in the southern part of Colorado for stock driveway purposes. The reservation is made subject to prior valid claims initiated under the public land laws other than the Stock Raising Homestead Law and maintained pursuant to law and to certain power site withdrawals. This is the first reservation for stock driveway purposes under Section 10 of the act of December 29, 1916 (39 Stat., 862). Withdrawal of certain areas in Arizona for stock driveway purposes was effected by Executive order of September 30, 1916, under the act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat., 847), and a preliminary withdrawal for stock driveway purposes of certain areas in eastern Oregon, pending further investigation, was made by the Secretary April 12, 1917, under the said act of December 29, 1916.

#### EXCLUSION FROM PALISADE NATIONAL FOREST.

By proclamation of June 30, certain lands were excluded from the Palisade National Forest in Idaho and Wyoming and the public lands therein subject to such disposition restored to homestead entry in advance of settlement or other forms of disposition. Such lands will become subject to entry only under the homestead laws requiring residence at and after 9 o'clock a. m., September 11 and to settlement and other forms of disposition at and after 9 o'clock a. m., September 18, 1917. About 5,000 acres all surveyed in Idaho and 2,200 acres, partly unsurveyed, in Wyoming will be restored under the proclamation. The Idaho lands are in the Blackfoot land district and those in Wyoming in the Evanston district.

#### HOMESTEAD RIGHTS OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

A bill relating to the rights of homesteaders who join the army or navy has passed both houses of Congress and will doubtless be signed by the President by the time the Bulletin goes to press. It gives credit for military and naval service to each person who has





made an entry or filed application for entry (afterwards allowed), or effected a valid settlement on a tract. All arms of the service are included, provided the unit shall have been Federalized. The act provides, moreover, that in case of the death of the soldier or sailor while actually engaged in the service, his widow, minor children, or other heirs may at once submit proof. Each homesteader should notify the land office of the designation of the unit with which he is engaged.

#### FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

##### From Denver.-

The last number of the Bulletin invites comment on the proposition of a special proof-taking officer, who will take final proofs on the land applied for or in its immediate vicinity. The one idea apparently is that the officer's report as to the actual compliance with law will form an important part of the proof, - act as a sort of balance wheel to the whole affair.

This may look good in theory, but will be found full of holes in practice. Many a homesteader has fully earned title in every respect, but, due to causes over which he has no control, has but little to show for his expenditure of money and labor, when the time comes for final proof. Evidence of what he has actually done in the way of honestly trying to show his good faith may be obtainable, which would fairly justify the issuance of a final certificate; but if the opinion of the proof-taking officer, based upon what he can see and learn of the situation, is to be accepted as of evidential value, the entryman may find himself unable to secure title, when in justice the result should be otherwise.

I have been through the mill myself, - clerk, special agent, and homesteader, and must say the plan proposed don't look good to me.

##### From Lamar.-

The last issue of the Bulletin invited discussion on the matter of taking final proofs on the homestead, instead of in the Land Office, or before the various other proof taking officers. I believe this would be a vast improvement over the present method. The difference of opinion as to the value of the improvements on a claim, will vary from \$100, to \$1000, representing the different viewpoints of the witnesses. Then it would give the honest homesteader full credit for the work he had done, and the ones whose improvements were negligible would have a fine chance to explain how it happened, and why. Undoubtedly many proofs are made, both the claimant and witnesses secure in the thought that no matter what





they say, it will never be found out. Were the proof taken on the land, the place would show for itself what had been done. To be taking a final proof, and have one tell about a "good barn", the other call it an "old shed;" -- to have the "nice house" called a "shack;" and the "fine well of water" degenerate to a "dry hole;" all these things and many more make one think the better way would be to have a first hand examination accompany the taking of proofs. Also the present system gives the malicious witness a chance to "get even" that many take advantage of, to the detriment of the faithful settler. Taking proof on the land would be welcomed by all honest homesteaders, and cause for meditation on the part of those doing barely enough to get by. It would also reduce the heavy expense at present charged for this final action. There might be a migration of farm buildings from place to place at proving up time, for the native American brain is fertile, but this would require more effort than many of them would care to make, and would be the exceptional case.

#### RECENT DECISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

##### Isolated Tracts:

In the case of the Towers Burt Land Company, coming up from the Miles City land office, the application, made under the first proviso of the act of 1912, was rejected, for the reason that said proviso does not apply to corporations, only to individual persons; and for the further reason that the tract involved had not been subject to entry for a period of two years after the entry of the adjacent lands.

On appeal the decision of the General Land Office was affirmed June 23, 1917, the Secretary holding that the construction of the act, and all action taken thereunder, are in the discretion of the Commissioner, and that no reason is found in this case for differing from the construction of the act as announced in his decision.

##### Affidavit of Contest:

In the case of Laura E. Smith vs. George W. Edgmon, Eureka 01424, the Secretary of the Interior held June 8, 1917, that an affidavit of contest filed against a homestead entry charging that entryman

"has not resided upon or made his home upon said land to the exclusion of a home elsewhere, and that he has not cultivated or improved said land as required by law, and that he has abandoned said entry".

did not set forth a cause of action.





"The charge that certain things had not been done 'as required by law' is a mere conclusion, not the statement of facts from which a conclusion can be drawn. A charge that 'he has abandoned said entry' made more than six years after the date of entry, is not the proper basis for a hearing, as it does not charge when the abandonment occurred nor how long it continued."

#### Heirs of Homesteader, Final Proof:

June 11, 1917, the Secretary held on appeal, in the case of the heirs of Hubert V. Tuttle, Los Angeles 015922, that although the heirs are relieved from the requirement of residence, they are, under the law required to have a habitable house on the land, saying:

"While Congress has relieved the heirs of the homesteader from showing residence on the land after the death of the entryman, section 2291, Revised Statutes, as amended by the act of June 6, 1912 (37 Stat., 123), provides that 'if he be dead ÷ ÷ ÷ his heirs or devisees ÷ ÷ ÷ proves ÷ ÷ ÷ that he, she, or they have a habitable house upon the land ÷ ÷ ÷ he, she, or they ÷ ÷ ÷ shall be entitled to a patent.' In the face of the plain and unambiguous language of the act the construction contended for by appellant cannot be adopted."

A reasonable time was accorded the heirs in which to show that a habitable house had been placed upon the land, the final proof thereupon to receive approval.

#### Power Site Withdrawal--Settlement Right:

In the case of the application of Margaret Leonard, Hailey 019205, to make homestead entry for land included within a power site withdrawal based on settlement prior to survey, the Secretary, on appeal, held June 11, 1917, that the application to make entry not having been filed within 90 days after filing the township plat of survey, the power site withdrawal attached under the terms of the act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat., 847).

In view of the equities of the case, however, the Secretary expressed the opinion that the power site withdrawal should be vacated and directed the preparation of an appropriate order to that effect.

#### Bird Reserve--Settlement Right:

The application of Nick Gurnow, Little Rock 013201, was rejected for the reason that the land applied for had been withdrawn as a part of the bird reserve known as the Big Lake Reservation,





created by the Executive Order of August 2, 1915, after he had made settlement thereon.

On request for instructions the Secretary said:

"While the Executive Order reserving the lands upon which Gurnow claimed settlement rights did not purport upon its face to have been based upon the act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat., 847), it was clearly authorized by that act, and this Department is of opinion that in instances like this one, the settlement rights recognized by that act should be given the protection accorded by it, regardless of the form of the order reserving the land."

#### Additional Homesteads:

A decision of the Secretary of the Interior rendered May 8, 1917, Rapid City 030370, relating to the rights of the widow, heirs or devisee of a deceased homestead entryman is of more than passing interest. For several years the law has been construed, under reported Departmental decisions, to permit such widow, heirs or devisee to make an entry additional to that of the homesteader. However, the Secretary has now held that the right of additional entry under any of the homestead laws is personal, not to be exercised by a widow, heir or devisee. However, all entries allowed prior to the date of his decision, under the ruling formerly in force, will be permitted to stand, and, if satisfactory proof be submitted, recommendation will be made to the Board of Equitable Adjudication for their confirmation and the issuance of patent.

#### SALES OF LANDS IN THE FORMER UINTAH INDIAN RESERVATION.

About 386,000 acres within the former Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah, were offered for sale for cash to the highest bidder, at Provo, Utah, commencing June 18, 1917, and at Duchesne, Utah, commencing July 2, 1917. The Uintah Reservation is situated in a large basin edged around by mountain ranges with elevations from nine to twelve thousand feet. The area not allotted to Indians was opened to homestead entry in 1905, and remained subject thereto for a period of five years during which less than 40,000 acres were entered. The law provided that after the lands had been subject to homestead entry for five years, the unentered lands should be disposed of to the highest bidder for cash in quantities not exceeding 640 acres to one person. Pursuant to this direction, a sale was held in 1910, at which 183,420.34 acres were sold for \$250,502.94, and a second sale in 1912, when 136,441.17 acres were sold for \$206,662.49. The most desirable tracts were entered under





the homestead law or disposed of at the offerings in 1910 and 1912. Most of the land which came up for sale this year was strictly grazing land and some of it was so rough and barren as to have little or no value, even for grazing.

Under these conditions, 931 tracts, embracing an aggregate of 200,684.74 acres were sold for the total sum of \$151,644.56, an average of  $75\frac{1}{2}$  cents per acre.

#### SHORE LINES OF ENTRIES ABUTTING UPON NAVIGABLE WATERS IN ALASKA.

The act of May 14, 1898 (30 Stat., 409), as amended by the act of March 3, 1903 (32 Stat., 1028), provides that in Alaska no entry shall be allowed extending more than 160 rods along the shore of any navigable water and that along such shore a space of at least 80 rods shall be reserved from entry between all such claims. So long as entries were made under special surveys, the application of this provision could be made without serious difficulty, but where lands are to be disposed of under the rectangular system of public land surveys, the necessity of some method of measurement of shore line that would permit entries by legal subdivisions became apparent. The question was submitted by this office to the Department, with a recommendation which resulted in the announcement, July 6, 1917, in Fairbanks 0413, of the following rule governing such entries:

"In consideration of applications to enter lands shown upon plats of public surveys in Alaska, abutting upon navigable waters, the restriction of 160 rods along the shore of such waters, provided by the act of May 14, 1898 (30 Stat., 409), as amended by the act of March 3, 1903 (32 Stat., 1028), to which entries are limited, shall be determined as follows: The length of the water front of a subdivision will be considered as represented by the shortest distance between the two side lines of the subdivision, measured from the shore corner nearest the back line of the tract; and the sum of the distances of each subdivision of the application abutting on the waters, so determined, shall be considered as the total shore length of the application. Where, as so measured, the excess of shore length over 160 rods is greater than the deficiency would be if an end tract or tracts were eliminated, such tract or tracts shall be excluded, otherwise the application may be allowed if in other respects proper.

"This principle shall also be applied with reference to the reservation of 80 rods between claims along the shore of such waters.





"This rule will be applied only where the lands involved are surveyed under the system of public surveys. As to individual surveys, the administrative necessity for this rule does not obtain and they will be governed by the old rule as set forth in the case of Shirley S. Philbrick (39 L. D., 513)."

This situation now will be clearly understood.

#### OREGON AND CALIFORNIA LANDS.

During the year 1914, while the Oregon and California land grant forfeiture suit was pending, a sale of firekilled timber upon certain of the grant lands was made to the Nehalem Timber & Logging Company. Inasmuch as the question pertaining to the title to the lands was in dispute at that time, the sale was made with the consent and approval of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon. Under the terms of the sale the money derived therefrom was held in escrow until the question of title to the lands could be finally adjudicated. As the result of the decision of the United States Supreme Court, and the subsequent act of revestment, this office has just been advised by the Department of Justice that the sum of \$200,889.77, representing the proceeds from the sale of the timber to date, has been ordered paid into the United States Treasury to the credit of the government.

#### LIBERTY LOAN BONDS AND THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

As far as heard from but with an occasional new subscription coming in, the personnel of the General Land Office, including its various field services, has subscribed up to date a total of \$109,000 to the Liberty Loan bonds. These subscriptions are divided as follows:

General Land Office at Washington,	\$ 49,550.00
Local land offices,	31,650.00
Offices of U. S. Surveyors General,	4,400.00
Field Service,	10,550.00
Surveying Service in the Field,	<u>12,850.00</u>
	\$109,000.00.

We are proud of this showing.





THE G. L. O. WORM.

If you can answer all the after-supper questions  
Your rancher-host keeps firing at your head,  
While you prop your eyelids open with your fingers,  
Hoping soon he'll think to mention "bed;"

If you can try to make midnight connections  
At Sidney, Lombard, Granger or Skidoo,  
And you find the railroad station filled with hoboes,  
And the midnight train comes in at half-past two;

If you can sit and listen to a shyster  
Extol a land-crook you have brought to taw  
And, with bitter words, denounce you to a jury  
Just because you've dared enforce the law;

If you can get suspensions from the Auditor  
Of accounts you feel are honest, just and true,  
And you know you never can secure their refund,  
And your thoughts would make a murderer of you;

If you can feed on German army rations  
And lodge in places that before were shunned by you,  
Endeavoring to subsist on Three Per Diem  
In states where Three Per now won't take you through;

If you can do all these and still be cheerful,  
Rememb'ring not the cost or injuries done,  
And keep right on a-working and a-smiling,  
Some day, you'll make a Special Agent, Son.

---Anonym.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Mr. John A. Smith, special agent of the General Land Office, is leaving for Europe for the purpose of representing the Government at the taking of certain depositions in connection with cases involving lands in the Salt Creek Oil Field in Wyoming. Mr. Smith expects to visit London, Paris and The Hague in the course of taking these depositions. He left fully equipped with a pocketful of credentials, with red seals on them with which to combat the submarines.





Mr. Jacob Berman of this office has received a commission as First Lieutenant in the Reserve Corps of the United States Engineers, but has not yet been called into service.

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Mr. Richard H. Dalton and Mr. William A. Crawford of the General Land Office have been accepted by the War Department, as volunteers to serve in a clerical capacity in the Engineer Corps, European Expeditionary Force, for the period of the war.

The good wishes of the office follow them.

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Mr. Claude I. Parker, now of Dallas, Texas, formerly a well-known member of the General Land Office, is in the city. He is a member of the firm of Parker Brothers, Business System Equipment, at Dallas, and from all accounts his adventure in the business world has proved a great success.

TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local office and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

September 1, 1917.

No. 7.

### The Oil Land Controversy.

So much has been said in the press, before committees of Congress and otherwise during the past three or four years relative to the oil land situation, principally in California and Wyoming, and so much of what has been said evidences a misconception of the facts and questions involved, that a simple statement of what it is all about for the benefit of those in our service is deemed not inappropriate.

As to the matter of proceedings now pending, there are in the main three general classes: (1) Land Office hearings on Government contests against applications for patent; (2) what are commonly known as the withdrawal suits in the courts to quiet title in the Government to unpatented lands, for an accounting and damages, with ancillary receiverships, and (3) what are commonly known as the Southern Pacific suits, which are to cancel patents for alleged frauds committed in the acquirement of title.

It should be noted at the outset that the Southern Pacific suits, the third class, have no connection whatever with the withdrawal suits, the facts, principles and issues all being entirely different. The fraud alleged in the Southern Pacific suits is that the lands were all of known mineral character, and so known to the Southern Pacific officers and agents, at the time the company filed and received approval and patent of its selection list. In all of these Southern Pacific suits except one, an important question of law is involved, in that the fraud was not discovered or suits filed for more than six years after the issuance of patent. One





suit, commonly known as the Elk Hills case, involving 6,109.17 acres, was commenced before the statute had run. This case was won by the Government in the trial court and is now pending on appeal. The evidence in the other Southern Pacific cases, eight in number, and embracing 163,654.09 acres, has practically all been taken. Some of the lands involved in the Southern Pacific suits are among the most valuable oil lands in California and the suits involve many millions of dollars.

Coming to the so-called withdrawal cases, classes one and two, it is first to be noted that some years ago practically all the known public oil lands were withdrawn from entry and selection "in aid of proposed legislation affecting the use and disposition of the petroleum deposits on the public domain." The two principal withdrawal orders around which the present controversy hangs were made on September 27, 1909, and July 2, 1910, both covering substantially the same lands. The effect of the first withdrawal order was to cut off everything but valid, perfected, legal claims. But see decision U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, of August 20, 1917, Consolidated Mutual Oil Company vs. United States. At this time there was great activity in certain sections in the location, development and exploitation of new fields. Manifestly this order caught the claimants in every conceivable stage of development, from those who had only a "paper location" to those who had drilled nearly to oil. In this connection there was not a little argument and difference of opinion as to the validity of this withdrawal order of September 27, 1909, and some of the lower courts held that the order was without authority of law and void, but the Supreme Court of the United States in February, 1915, settled the question in what was known as the Midwest case, holding that the order was lawful, valid and effective.

In the meantime, however, Congress took a hand in the matter, and on June 25, 1910, the so-called Pickett Act was approved. The principal purpose of this act was to remove any doubt as to the authority of the President to make withdrawals by expressly giving him that authority. At the instance of the oil men, who complained that they had been treated unfairly, in that they had been taken unawares after the expenditure of large sums on the basis of then existing laws and conditions, a proviso was inserted to the effect that "a bona fide occupant or claimant" who at the date of any withdrawal order "heretofore or hereafter made", was in diligent prosecution of work leading to discovery, and continued same with diligence, would not be affected by the withdrawal; but Congress expressly disclaimed any intention of validating or invalidating the withdrawal theretofore made, i.e., that of September 27, 1909.

So, the whole question so far as the effect of the withdrawals is concerned, is: Was the claim perfected by the discovery of oil before the withdrawal, and if not, was the claimant in diligent prosecu-





tion of work leading to discovery on that date, which diligence was continued to discovery, and incidentally, of course, what constitutes diligence under all the varied and complicated facts and circumstances of the many cases that have arisen, for it now appears probable that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended in the development of immensely valuable properties not covered or saved by the proviso to the Pickett Act.

Another feature of the withdrawal matter is that of the Naval Petroleum Reserves. By order of September 2, 1912, the President created Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1, commonly known as the Elk Hills, consisting of a gross area of a little over 38,000 acres; by order of December 11, 1912, the President created Naval Reserve No. 2, sometimes referred to as the Buena Vista Hills, and covering a little over 29,500 acres. By order of April 30, 1915, Naval Reserve No. 3, the Teapot Dome, in Wyoming, was created, embracing 9,481 acres. Large portions of Naval Reserves Nos. 1 and 2 in California are private patented lands; Naval Reserve No. 2 contains some of the most valuable producing oil lands in California. The so-called Elk Hills suit against the Southern Pacific Company, includes a considerable area in the Elk Hills Naval Reserve. It should be understood that all the land included in these Naval Reserves was also included in the orders of withdrawal of September 27, 1909, and July 2, 1910. The creation of the Naval Reserves only operate to set aside these areas for the exclusive use of the Navy. While the principles of law and the right to a patent on claims situated in the Naval Reserves are essentially the same as those situated in withdrawn areas outside of the Naval Reserves, due to the fact that the Navy has been desirous of immediately clearing the Naval Reserves of all doubtful claims, a somewhat different policy has been followed in the Naval Reserves from that outside. There are no patented lands in Naval Reserve No. 3 in Wyoming, though there is a small area of school sections.

Injected into this oil land situated in many cases is the issue of fraud, resulting from so-called "dummy locators." This issue of course has no connection with the withdrawal policy and would have existed in any case regardless of the withdrawals. The placer mining law provides that a person may locate a claim of 20 acres and that an association of persons up to eight, may locate a claim equal to 20 acres for each locator; hence the great majority of the locations consist of 160-acre claims located by associations of eight persons. The courts and the Department during recent years have repeatedly held that each locator in an association claim must have an actual bona fide interest in the claim located, and that he can not simply lend his name as a locator for the use and benefit of somebody else. A corporation may locate any number of claims of 20 acres each, but a group of association locators can not locate a claim for the use and benefit of a corporation or individual. The advantage of the association location is that only one discovery and the same amount of expenditure for patent is required on each claim, whether it be a 20-acre claim or a 160-acre claim. A corporation whose title is now bad because based on a location made by dummies





might have acquired a perfectly legal title to the land in question by locating it in 20-acre claims by making a discovery on each. It is possible that in the absence of the intervening withdrawals, these defective locations might be abandoned and proper locations made. The fraud in the use of dummies consists in one individual or corporation by this device seeking to acquire a larger area of public lands with a certain amount of expenditure and development than the law allows. Unfortunately, the use of dummy locators appears to have been quite generally resorted to, and dummy locations are void, at least as to all those connected with or benefiting by the fraud.

Another class of cases consists of those where the charge is non-discovery by reason of the fact that the alleged discovery on which the location is predicated consists of gypsum or Fuller's earth. This difficulty would also have existed just the same regardless of the withdrawals, except that in the absence of the withdrawal a proper and legal discovery of oil might later be made.

The proceedings directed in all the Land Office hearings against the applications for patent in the oil land cases consist therefore, of three general classes; (1) diligence of the claimant as against the withdrawal; (2) fictitious locators; and (3) alleged subterfuge discovery.

In cases in the Naval Reserves and some outside, suits have been started to quiet title in the Government or for an accounting and damages, notwithstanding applications for patent are pending, also, some other suits have been brought against claimants who have never made any application for patent. These are the suits that are commonly known as the withdrawal suits as distinguished from the Southern Pacific suits.

As indicative of the extent of the lands involved in these various proceedings, it may be stated that the Southern Pacific suits involve the title to 170,000 acres. In California there are about 140 pending mineral applications, covering about 35,000 acres. Adverse proceedings have been directed and are now pending in about 100 cases. There are now pending 71 of the so-called withdrawal suits, affecting over 13,000 acres, in California, and approximately 10,500,000 barrels of oil have been produced under control of receivers, who now have in their custody some \$8,000,000 worth of money and oil. In addition to the above, there are 59 applications for patent for nearly 10,000 acres in Wyoming.

No one not directly connected with the handling of these matters can scarcely comprehend the immense amount of work and multitude of details that has had to be examined into in the investigation and preparation of all these cases.

As soon as the Government began actively to press these cases, operators who were producing oil from the lands found it difficult to sell same because the purchasing concerns refused to incur any liability





for damage which might result from having purchased oil taken in trespass. Consequently Congress, by the Act of August 25, 1914, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to enter into agreements whereby the production could go on pending the determination of the right to title. Under this act security is given, or a certain portion of the proceeds of the oil is impounded, to satisfy any claims of the Government. Under these various agreements escrow deposits and security aggregating over a million and a half dollars have been made.

It is manifest that the situation above outlined is in many respects unfortunate both as regards the oil operators affected and the interests of the Government, as well as the general public. Congress has given much attention during the past four years to proposed oil land legislation. The Secretary of the Interior has consistently recommended the enactment of a general leasing system whereby the oil business may be placed on a rational basis, with certain tenure to the operator and proper control by the Government. Very naturally in connection with all of the proposed legislation there have been presented for consideration the claims for "relief" of those whose properties are involved in the litigation referred to. The problem in Congress then, is to harmonize conflicting views on questions of general legislative policy with respect to this tremendously valuable national resource, and to adjust these various claims and equities in such a way as to protect the interests of the Government, do justice to the operators, put an end to long and expensive litigation, place the oil business on a sound, practical basis, and render possible the increase at this critical time of the production of a commodity that has come to be a necessity of our modern civilization.





## ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

The prompt confirmation of the nomination of Hon. Seldon G. Hopkins, of Wyoming, as Assistant Secretary of the Interior is a deserved tribute to his demonstrated fitness for the heavy duties of this office.

In his young manhood Mr. Hopkins taught school and later read law, becoming County Attorney of Sheridan county, Kansas, following his admission to the bar of that State. He occupied this position from 1894 to 1898 and in 1900 became a member of the Kansas State Senate. He was editor of The Times of Wheatland, Wyoming, in 1901, and later secretary of the Wyoming Democratic State Committee. In 1912, when J. M. Carey, a Republican, was elected Governor of the State on the Democratic ticket, Mr. Hopkins was made State Land Commissioner.

When oil was discovered in the State Mr. Hopkins began leasing the lands instead of selling them, and as a result, the State received large revenues.

His familiarity with the administration of State grants and Carey Act segregations from the State side of the question will stand him well in hand here where he will have to consider these grants from the Federal side.

The Bulletin bids the new Assistant Secretary a hearty welcome.





CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

Appointments.

General Land Office.-

Robert L. Stroud, of South Dakota, copyist at \$800 per annum. Percy E. Goodell, of Washington and George D. Wilson, of Illinois, copyists at \$720.

Local Office.-

Joseph Astor Barker, Register of the Land Office at Great Falls, Montana. Commission dated August 10, 1917.

Reappointments.

Daniel F. Burholder, Receiver, Gregory, South Dakota. Commission dated August 10, 1917.

Edwin M. Starcher, Register, Gregory, South Dakota. Commission dated August 10, 1917.

Kirk E. Baxter, Receiver at Bellefourche, South Dakota. Commission dated August 10, 1917.

Thomas Corbally, Receiver at Great Falls, Montana. Commission dated August 11, 1917.

Mrs. Annie G. Rogers, Receiver at Leadville, Colorado. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Albert F. Browns, Register at Sterling, Colorado. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Edward J. McLean, Receiver at Billings, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

John T. Hamilton, Receiver at Miles City, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Edward C. Hargadine, Receiver at Glasgow, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Fred H. Foster, Register at Billings, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Fletcher W. Appleton, Register at Bozeman, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.

Thomas R. Jones, Register at Glasgow, Montana. Commission dated August 1, 1917.





Francisco Delgado, Register at Santa Fe,  
New Mexico. Commission dated July 20, 1917.

Surveyor General.-

Frederick W. Fischer, of Florida, clerk-  
draftsman at \$4 per diem, office of Surveyor  
General, Montana.

Field Service.-

Miss Phyllis Lynch, of Utah, stenographer  
and typewriter at \$900 per annum, office  
Chief of Salt Lake City Field Division, Utah.

Surveying Service.-

Fred Dahlquist, of Alaska, transitman at  
\$100 per month in the States, \$150 in Alaska.

Lemuel R. Mercer, of California, transitman  
at \$100 per month.

Transfers.

General Land Office.-

Frederick M. Nestler, of Tennessee, to the  
Geological Survey.

Harry K. Gilman, of Hawaii, to the Super-  
vising Architect's Office, Treasury Depart-  
ment.

William A. Crawford, of the District of  
Columbia, and Richard Dalton, of Indiana,  
from clerks of Class Two at \$1400 to the War  
Department, for service in France.

Local Office.-

Earl H. Brown, of Iowa, to stenographer and  
typewriter at \$1440 per annum, land office  
Pueblo, Colorado, from land office Bellefourche,  
South Dakota.

Charles Simon, of New York, to land law clerk  
at \$1380 per annum, Blackfoot, Idaho, from  
land office at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Willard T. Smith, of Delaware, to land law  
clerk at \$1440 per annum, land office Salt  
Lake City, Utah, from land office at Black-  
foot, Idaho.

William C. Wallace, of California, from this  
office to the land office at Sacramento,  
California, as land law clerk at \$1020 per annum.





### Temporary Appointments.

General Land Office.- Miss Marie A. Parks, Miss Helen Bergmann, Miss Julia Mattingly, Miss Edith E. Vincent, Miss Katherine Roche, and Miss Ruth E. Steadman, of the District of Columbia, Miss Geneva Clower, of Maryland, and Miss Mignon Moran, of Wisconsin, copyists at \$720 per annum.

### Promotions.

General Land Office.- Charles M. Hahn, of Pennsylvania, and Frederick T. Livings, of Indiana, to clerks of class Four at \$1880.

Daniel J. Orcutt, of New York, and Edward L. Valentine, of Arkansas, to clerks of class Three at \$1600.

Milo H. Trotter, of West Virginia, Harry W. Foss, of Maine, and Bernard L. McGarvey, of Pennsylvania, to clerks of class Two at \$1400.

Marshall H. Montrose, of Pennsylvania, Miss Julia Banks, of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Mabel M. Dawson, of South Dakota, to clerks of class One at \$1200.

Miss Augusta H. Wernick, of Wisconsin, and Miss Nellie E. Wright, of Florida, to clerks at \$1000.

Nelson J. Moskowitz, of New York, John W. Ringwald, of Indiana, Miss Mary G. McVey, of North Carolina, and Miss Sallie Rowe, of Louisiana, to copyists at \$900.

### Resignations.

General Land Office.- William H. Woodward, of Nebraska, clerk of class Four at \$1800, because of ill health.

Floyd E. Hedges, of Michigan, clerk at \$1000.

John C. Frei, of Indiana, clerk at \$1000.

Miss Daisy E. Leonard, of Illinois, copyist at \$720. Samuel H. Merritt, of Wisconsin, assistant messenger at \$720.

Abner C. Lakenan, Francis M. Smith, and John S. Calvert, messenger boys at \$600.





## Resignations.

### Local Office.-

Clarence H. Roberts, of Oregon, land law clerk at \$1140 per annum, land office Glasgow, Montana.

Karl J. Kirkpatrick, of Montana, land law clerk at \$900 per annum, land office Montrose, Colorado.

Walter J. McMahon, of New Jersey, stenographer and typewriter, land office Bismarck, North Dakota.

Thomas P. Garvey, of Massachusetts, stenographer and typewriter, land office Miles City, Montana.

John H. Bowen, Register of the land office at Springfield, Missouri, resigned, effective August 31, 1917. Mr. Guilford A. Leavitt, of this office, has been appointed clerk in charge of the Springfield office.

## OBITUARY.

In the death of Mr. E. C. Varela, which occurred July 29, 1917, the public land service has lost one of its most efficient members. For many years he has been an acknowledged authority on the subject of repayments, and the place he held in this one of our activities will not be easily filled.

Word comes of the death on July 31, 1917, of Felix T. Dunn, a clerk in the district land office at Sacramento. Mr. Dunn entered the public land service in the San Francisco district office, was transferred to the Susanville office, and subsequently to Sacramento. He was a faithful and conscientious clerk through all the years of his service.

## SURVEY NOTES.

### Old Snags:

Whenever one of those old surveys, one of those dilapidated relics of a bygone age, which has been slumbering these many years in peaceful obscurity, forgetful of its mission on the earth's surface, and almost forgotten itself, suddenly through the workings of the mysterious decrees of Fate finds itself in the spot light of publicity, it immediately loses its atmosphere of the commonplace and assumes all the dignity and importance of a "problem," and is referred to in the Service with appropriate illuminative adjectives, as an "old snag." No section of the country is without its "old snags" and no problem of survey before us today offers better opportunity for the exercise of skill and judgment in its solution than they do.





While many a present day "old snag" is suffering from nothing more serious than the infirmities of old age complicated perhaps by the unskilled efforts of local talent at rejuvenation, unfortunately there are some whose trouble is organic; some whose course has been swayed by every local attraction that has crossed its path, whose progress has never known the influence of a guiding star and whose earthly limits were confined in their creation to only such areas as were easy of access.

One of our packers on the coal lands surveys in Alaska two years ago, who had previously accompanied a notorious Arctic explorer on his alleged ascent of Mount McKinley, was asked how far they actually did get towards the summit of the mountain. He replied with some show of warmth that they had gotten up just as high as it was possible for human beings to go --- in a gasoline launch.

Unhappily, some of our gravest problems are beyond the old time headwaters of navigability, where the original surveyor could not go in a gasoline launch, as it were, but where it claims to have gone in the record. It is in such instances, where lands may have been entered and patented, where rights of various kinds may have been acquired and private and political boundaries defined under a partly mythical survey, that our best efforts at restoration are required. Ours is like many another modern work which while enjoying the advantages of the progress made in scientific knowledge, methods and instruments, suffers in some degree from the mistakes made in the earlier stages of its existence when different methods were employed. And yet it may be said in all truth and with full appreciation of such unfortunate consequences as may have resulted from the errors of the past that because of this incongruous relation of the old to the new and the necessity for their reconciliation in accordance with scientific surveying principles, the law and the rights of the individuals interested, because of the "old snags" if you will, the surveying practice of the General Land Office has gradually outgrown the bounds of ordinary land surveying until today it occupies the very highest plane of specialized, scientific work.

Even the "old snags" have their uses.

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The survey of the sixteenth Indian pueblo during the last few years has been commenced by Francis E. Joy, U. S. Surveyor, and Basil C. Perkins, U. S. Transitman. This is the Laguna Indian Pueblo, one of the best preserved and most picturesque of those interesting Indian settlements. The other fifteen pueblos and their related reservations, the surveys of which have been completed, are as follows: San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Isleta, Sandia, Santa Anna, Jemez, Via, San Juan, Taos, Nambe, Picures, Tesuque, San Filippi, Santa Domingo and Cochiti. These pueblo lands comprise more than 600,000 acres and include about three thousand small holding or private land claims.





Nine townships under the Elephant Butte Reclamation Project, New Mexico, are being resurveyed by G. P. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor, and Glenn R. Haste, U. S. Transitman. Eleven townships under this project were resurveyed last season.

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Ernest P. Rands, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 8, has spent practically the entire month of August with the field parties in the State of Oregon. During the greater part of this time he was with the parties of Wright, Rodolf, Hemphill and Bradley, Campbell and Daley, Mensch, and Strickler, on the Oregon and California land Grant in southwestern Oregon. Mr. Rands reports that the dense smoke from forest fires raging in that region is causing no end of annoyance to the surveying parties, but that no serious delays have resulted therefrom.

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Herman Jaeckel, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 2, has been with the field parties in Wyoming, for several weeks. He will return to Cheyenne for a brief visit early in September.

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Major Norman L. King, First New Mexico Infantry, formerly Chief Clerk of the office of the Surveyor General at Santa Fe, made the Santa Fe office a short visit during the early part of August. During the Major's absence the duties of Chief Clerk have been assumed by Surveyor General Dills, assisted by E. F. Wittman, Chief Draftsman, and Harry C. Hamill, Draftsman.

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L. L. Clement, U. S. Surveyor, has been busy throughout July and August on Island Surveys in Michigan and Minnesota. A townsite on the Red Lake Indian Reservation will be surveyed by him early in September after the completion of the Island Surveys.

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Wallace G. Shapcott, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 2, Louis H. Pinkham, Jr., U. S. Transitman, District No. 7, W. L. Hemphill, U. S. Transitman, District No. 8, and James C. Hooper, U. S. Transitman, and William L. Nash, U. S. Transitman, District No. 5, have been admitted to the Second Officers' Training Camp which commenced August 27th. Mr. Shapcott was assigned to Ft. Sheridan, Messrs. Pinkham, Hemphill and Hooper to the Presidio, and Mr. Nash to Leon Springs, Texas. A large number of field assistants and several transitmen have been drawn for the national army under the selective service act.





In the execution of surveys under Groups 51 and 53, New Mexico, Surveyors Wendell V. Hall and William C. Perkins recently had occasion to retrace 54 miles of township exteriors surveyed and accepted about three years ago under Groups 12 and 13, New Mexico. The retracement showed an average difference in bearing from the original surveys of  $0^{\circ} 3'$  and an average difference in measurement of  $6/10$  of a link for each half mile of the 54 miles retraced. The greatest difference in bearing developed in any one half mile was  $0^{\circ} 9'$  and the greatest difference in measurement in any one mile was 6 links. The degree of accuracy attained under the Direct System of Surveys as exemplified in these retracements fully justifies the policy of the General Land Office as embodied in the annual instructions of August 17, 1916 (which were extended and made applicable to this fiscal year) of assuming that no retracement of exterior lines surveyed under the Direct System, for the purpose of verifying their accuracy will be necessary.

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Ranney Y. Lyman, U. S. Surveyor, has been assigned to the survey of Wolf Point Townsite, Montana. The work has been made special all along the line in the field and in the office with a view to having the returns completed in order to permit of the sale of town lots therein during the month of September.

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The recently surveyed townsites on the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, known as Flathead and Charlot, have been changed to Pablo and Tabor.

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John P. Walker, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 9, is still in the Cook Inlet district of Alaska, dividing his time with the parties of Wilhelm and Calvin, Williamson, and Warner, and looking after such special surveys and examinations as his supervisory duties will permit.

Four townsites were surveyed in the Territory during the past fiscal year, namely, Nenana, near the confluence of the Tanana and Nenana Rivers in interior Alaska; Matanuska, at the junction of the Matanuska branch of the government railroad with the main line; Moose Creek on the branch line near where the creek of that name empties into the Matanuska River, and Wasilla, on the main line northwest of Matanuska, all near the south coast of Alaska. A third addition to the townsite of Anchorage and a railway elimination were also surveyed recently.





Surveyor General Gerharz of Montana has been commissioned a Captain in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army, and has been ordered to report to the training camp at Fort Leavenworth September 2nd.

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Theodore Cronyn, U. S. Transitman, District No. 1, has been named alternate for Montana at the second officers' training camp.

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George R. Campbell, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 8, has been commissioned a Captain in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army. He has not yet been assigned to duty.

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S. W. Goodale, Law Examiner, detailed to examine offices of surveyors general and local land offices, left San Francisco August 19th on a trip of inspection to Reno, Salt Lake City, Cheyenne and Denver. He expects to visit Santa Fe and Phoenix also before returning to San Francisco.

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Joseph A. Garong, Chief Draftsman in the office of the Surveyor General at Portland, was temporarily transferred to the field during the month of August in order to enable him to complete certain metes and bounds surveys under Group No. 9, Oregon, with which he is familiar.

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N. B. Sweitzer, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 3, who is with the field parties in South Dakota, expects to shortly leave for southern Nebraska. The surveyors in District No. 3 have been occupied with many varieties of work during the past month, among which was a resurvey of Lake Traverse, Minnesota, near the boundary of South Dakota, Indian Surveys in North and South Dakota along the Cannon Ball River, Fragmentary surveys in the Black Hills and resurveys in southwestern Nebraska.

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J. Scott Harrison, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for District No. 1, is spending a considerable part of his time in the field with the younger transitmen in the service, acquainting them with not only survey methods but with accounting and cost-keeping.





Surveyors in the Black Hills in South Dakota are complaining of an epidemic of black rattlers due to the excessive dryness this season. We had hoped that the election last fall had cured, not aggravated, this complaint.

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C. L. DuBois, Chief of the Division of Surveys of the General Land Office, left Washington August 16th for a brief visit to Helena, Cheyenne, Denver and Santa Fe, on official business.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, has spent the best part of August in northern California with the parties of Lightfoot and Redwine, Walters, Hooper, and English. The work on which these surveyors are engaged will be completed about October 1st, when they will be transferred to southern California and Arizona on the winter work in that region.

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Geo. D. D. Kirkpatrick, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 6, is visiting the field parties in Nevada. He expects to return to his headquarters in Salt Lake City for a brief visit early in September.

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Frank S. Spofford, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 7, spent the early part of August in southwestern Idaho with the parties in that section of the country. He reports satisfactory progress.

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The remarking of the allotment corners on the former Leech Lake, Cass Lake, Chippewa, Winnibigoshish and White Oak Point Indian Reservations, now just beginning, promises to be a very extensive survey and one that presents conditions on the grounds quite different from those that obtained when the original surveys were executed in the '70's. The reservation (now called the Leech Lake) is located at the headwaters of the Mississippi River and embraces a large lake area. The Government has constructed dams to control flowage into the river, resulting in raising the water level several feet above the mean high water elevation represented on the original township plats. The original timber has been largely removed, its place being taken by a small proportion of cultivated land, and the balance covered by a very dense undergrowth and small timber. In the early days the region could be reached only by long distances of "man-pack" whereas today there are several railroads and automobile highways across the reservation, with several thriving villages enroute, and the district is visited by hundreds of summer tourists. A. N. Kimmell, U. S. Surveyor,





and William R. Johnston, U. S. Transitman, are at work on Group No. 1, and E. G. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor, and Carl Dyson, U. S. Transitman, have been assigned to Group No. 2 of the Leech Lake resurveys. Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys, is giving this work much of his personal attention.

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Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, expects to leave Denver shortly for New Mexico, Arizona, California, and the northwest.

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

While changing conditions during the last hundred years have necessarily modified, often in marked degree, administrative procedure in the business of surveying, managing and disposing of the public lands, the human story has been the same throughout the years. Glimpses into the past reveal the aims and ambitions of the Commissioners of yesterday, their plans and recommendations to meet and keep current the great volume of business, which while far less complex and diversified in character than that of today nevertheless presented many original problems for solution.

The following is an excerpt from the seventh annual message of President Jackson dated December 7, 1835, when the General Land Office was a bureau of the Treasury Department, nearly fourteen years before the Interior Department was created.

"The extraordinary receipts from the sales of the public lands invite you to consider what improvements the land system, and particularly the condition of the General Land Office, may require. At the time this institution was organized, near a quarter of a century ago, it would probably have been thought extravagant to anticipate for this period such an addition to its business as has been produced by the vast increase of those sales during the past and present years. It may also be observed that since the year 1812 the land offices and surveying districts have been greatly multiplied, and that numerous legislative enactments from year to year since that time have imposed a great amount of new and additional duties upon that office, while the want of a timely application of force commensurate with the care and labor required has caused the increasing embarrassment of accumulated arrears in the different branches of the establishment.

These impediments to the expedition of much duty in the General Land Office induce me to submit to your judgment whether some modification of the laws relating to its organization,





or an organization of a new character, be not called for at the present juncture, to enable the office to accomplish all the ends of its institution with a greater degree of facility and promptitude than experience has proved to be practicable under existing regulations. The variety of the concerns and the magnitude and complexity of the details occupying and dividing the attention of the Commissioner appear to render it difficult, if not impracticable, for that officer by any possible assiduity to bestow on all the multifarious subjects upon which he is called to act the ready and careful attention due to their respective importance, unless the Legislature shall assist him by a law providing, or enabling him to provide, for a more regular and economical distribution of labor, with the incident responsibility among those employed under his direction. The mere manual operation of affixing his signature to the vast number of documents issuing from his office subtracts so largely from the time and attention claimed by the weighty and complicated subjects daily accumulating in that branch of the public service as to indicate the strong necessity of revising the organic law of the establishment."

But what would he have said if they had had a grazing homestead law to deal with?

#### THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING.

Secretary Lane does not want any distinction made between the new Interior Department Building and the old buildings of the Department. In other words, the new building into which most of the bureaus of the Department have recently moved, is to be referred to as the Interior Department Building, while the other buildings under the jurisdiction of this Department are to be known as the Patent Office Building, the Pension Office Building and the Land Office Building, respectively.

#### INTERIOR DEPARTMENT WAR RELIEF.

If you have any doubt about the activity of the organization of ladies, headed by Mrs. Lane, in charge of the Interior Department War Relief Work, it will be dispelled by a trip to the third floor, rear, of the Home Club on any Tuesday afternoon. The so-called "busy bee" is an "also ran", in comparison with these hard working ladies of the Department. In one portion of the room material for the various articles to be made up is being given out and charged, and across the way the completed articles--pajamas, sheets, sweaters, socks, etc.,-- are being turned in and receipted for. It is amazing the amount of work these devoted women accomplish in the course of a





week. Each article now bears, in addition to the red cross, the words "Interior Department War Work, Washington, D. C." If one of our employees is sick or wounded and happens to climb into a suit of pajamas bearing this tag, can't you imagine what it's going to mean to him? Every woman in the Department, and the wives and daughters of employees should be identified with this great work.

-- The Rolling Pin.

#### LAND OFFICE WAR RELIEF FUND.

The committee having in charge the collections from the Land Office for the Interior Department War Relief Fund, to be used in endowing one or more beds in the Hospital at Neuilly, France, thanks all who so generously contributed. About \$700 has been collected, more than \$500 of which was contributed by the Field Force.

Money has already been sent for two beds, and early in September money for two or more will be sent as well as boxes of supplies which the ladies of the Interior Department have been making for said hospital.

#### RECENT DECISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

##### Enlarged Homestead Additional Entry:

In Rapid City homestead contest, 026980, Mallman vs. Halff on rehearing the Secretary of the Interior held August 2, 1917, re-affirming his holding of May 17, 1917, that should the contestant secure the cancellation of the entry under attack it would not carry with it any right to a tract adjacent thereto applied for by the entryman under Sec. 3 of the enlarged homestead act saying:

"Nothing that contestant has set forth in any paper filed could, if proven, secure for her a preference right of entry for the tract described in the additional application of Halff. His original entry being intact, and its life time not having expired, he has the right to make an additional thereto under Sec. 3 of the enlarged homestead act, whether or not he has complied with the law as to the original entry. The additional entry, if allowed, can be perfected even though the original be canceled; and until the additional application becomes an entry and is thereafter regularly canceled on contest, there are no proceedings by which Mallman can acquire a preference right of entry as to the tract."





#### Desert Entry Expenditures:

In the case of Jones v. Powell, Great Falls 032366, the Secretary, July 14, 1917, called attention to the fact that the concurring decisions below held that the entryman was not entitled to claim as an expenditure \$40 paid for a fence which was on the land when the entry was made, following Herren v. Hicks (41 L. D., 601) and said:

"The records of the Land Department show that this is the first desert-land entry made for the land. The cost of the fence not having been claimed before in an annual proof on a desert-land entry, the rule announced in Herren v. Hicks, supra, has no application. Under the circumstances disclosed, the good faith of the purchase and use of the fence being in no wise questioned, the entryman is entitled to credit for its cost."

#### Lode Location--Application for Patent:

The Department recently had occasion to reaffirm its former holding as to its authority to investigate and determine the validity of a lode mining location prior to application for patent, holding in the case of Paris Gibson et al, (Lewistown 036994) July 10--

"The Department cannot concur in the correctness of applicant's contention, that it is without authority to investigate and determine the validity of a lode mining location until application for patent shall have been made therefor, it having, by decision of February 6, 1917, in J. B. Nichols and Cy Smith, reaffirmed the doctrine to the contrary, announced in H. H. Yard et al, (38 L. D., 59), which is supported by the recent case of Lane v. Cameron, decided by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia (44 Wash. Law Rep., 743)."

#### Practice - Appeal:

Attention is invited to the decision of the Department, dated August 14, 1917, in the case of Merle R. Allen, involving desert land application No. 02578, El Centro, California, land district.

This application was held for rejection by the Commissioner because it appeared from a report submitted by the Field Service under Circular No. 383 that the applicant could not secure a water supply for the irrigation of the land he sought to enter. The applicant was allowed the right to appeal, or to apply for a hearing to refute the conclusions reached by the Field Service and he elected to appeal. The Department affirmed the decision of the Commissioner, and





thereupon the applicant filed a request for a hearing under paragraph 13 of the desert land regulations (45 L. D., 345). In denying the request for a hearing the Department stated that having elected to appeal, the applicant could not then as a right, demand a hearing.

#### COAL DISCOVERY IN ALASKA.

A discovery of coal was made recently at Station 6451, near Mile 175 on the right-of-way of the Government railroad, about one mile northwest of the crossing of the Little Susitna River. G. Gianninni & Co., who were awarded a contract last May for stripping and grading the right-of-way between Stations 6436 and 6475, uncovered the vein while driving a trap tunnel for the purpose of securing rock and gravel for the roadbed. The coal was encountered within eight feet of the surface of a hill about 30 feet from the grade, and at the point of discovery the vein is about four feet thick. No examination has as yet been made to determine the extent of the coal bed or the value of the coal for steaming purposes.

Coal appears at numerous places along the branch line of the railroad in the Matanuska field, and has been found in various other sections of the Territory outside the known coal-bearing areas, but this is the first coal encountered on the main line of the Government railroad.

--Alaska Railroad Record.

#### RESTORATION OF LANDS WITHDRAWN UNDER THE CAREY ACT.

The following restorations of lands heretofore withdrawn under the act of August 18, 1894 (28 Stat., 372), known as the Carey Act, and the act of March 15, 1910 (36 Stat., 237), supplemental thereto, are announced, the lands to be subject to homestead entry on the date herein given and to other forms of entry one week later:

ARIZONA: 15,030.76 acres, in Yuma County, September 30, 1917.

COLORADO: Glenwood Springs district, 26,474.51 acres, in Moffat County, July 16, 1917; 19,270.37 acres in Moffat County September 4, 1917.

IDAHO: Hailey district, 341.55 acres, in Twin Falls County, September 6, 1917; 6,197.64 acres in Lemhi County, August 20, 1917; 3,240.70 acres, Cassia County, August 27, 1917; 9,679.56 acres, Twin Falls County, September 1, 1917. Boise and Hailey district, 99,381.90 acres, in Owyhee County, September 10, 1917. Blackfoot district, 2,160 acres, Teton County, September 6, 1917; 19,107.36 acres, Butte County, July 16, 1917. Boise district, 29,203.06 acres, Owyhee County, September 13, 1917.





MONTANA: Great Falls district, 40 acres, in Teton County, September 17, 1917.

NEVADA: Carson City district, 11,105 acres, Nye County, September 6, 1917; Elko district, 6,377.43 acres, Elko County, October 2, 1917.

OREGON: The Dalles district, 74,198.02 acres, Crook and Deschutes Counties, September 24, 1917.

UTAH: Vernal and Salt Lake City districts, 40,251.36 acres, Uintah and Duchesne Counties, September 10, 1917; 2,879.81 acres, Millard County, August 22, 1917; 4,999.15 acres, Emery County, September 4, 1917; 7,500.28 acres, Grand and San Juan Counties, September 19, 1917.

WYOMING: Cheyenne district, 17,967.06 acres, Carbon County, August 22, 1917; 1,885.36 acres, Goshen County, September 11, 1917; 25,396.92 acres, Carbon County, September 11, 1917; 2,525.39 acres, Albany County, September 13, 1917. Buffalo district, 1,721.36 acres, Washakie County, September 13, 1917; 235.15 acres, Park and Big Horn Counties, September 6, 1917. Douglas district, 475.28 acres, Converse County, September 13, 1917. Evanston district, 200 acres, Lincoln County, September 6, 1917.

Intending applicants for these lands should remember that within the boundaries of the area of land restored as above will be found some tracts heretofore appropriated, so that due care should be taken to ascertain whether the lands desired are affected by the order of restoration.

#### DAKOTA NATIONAL FOREST ABOLISHED.

By Proclamation of June 30, the Dakota National Forest in North Dakota was abolished and the public lands therein subject to such disposition restored to homestead entry in advance of settlement or other forms of disposition. Such lands will become subject to entry only under the homestead laws requiring residence at and after 9 o'clock, a. m., September 19, and to settlement and other forms of disposition at and after 9 o'clock a. m., September 26, 1917. About 6134 acres will be restored under the proclamation. The lands are in the Dickinson land district.

#### EXCLUSION FROM WASATCH NATIONAL FOREST.

By Proclamation of August 3, certain lands were excluded from the Wasatch National Forest in Utah, and the public lands therein subject to such disposition restored to homestead entry in advance of settlement or other forms of disposition. Such lands will become subject to entry only under the homestead laws requiring residence at





and after 9 o'clock a. m., October 2, and to settlement and other forms of disposition at and after 9 o'clock a. m., October 9, 1917. About 2576 acres will be restored under the proclamation. The lands are in the Salt Lake City land district.

#### LEGISLATIVE RELIEF FOR PUBLIC LAND CLAIMANTS.

##### Assessment Work on Mining Claims:

The act of July 17, 1917, Senate Joint Resolution 33, provides:

"That the provisions of section twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which require that on each mining claim located after the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and until patent has been issued therefor, not less than \$100 worth of labor shall be performed or improvements made during each year, shall not apply to claims or parts of claims owned by officers or enlisted men who have been or may, during the present war with Germany, be mustered into the military or naval service of the United States to serve during their enlistment in the war with Germany, so that no mining claim or any part thereof owned by such person which has been regularly located and recorded shall be subject to forfeiture for nonperformance of the annual assessments during the period of his service or until six months after such owner is mustered out of the service or until six months after his death in the service: Provided, That the claimant of any mining location, in order to obtain the benefits of this resolution, shall file, or cause to be filed, a notice in the office where the location notice or certificate is recorded, before the expiration of the assessment year during which he is so mustered, giving notice of his muster into the service of the United States and of his desire to hold said mining claim under this resolution."

##### Homestead Entrymen or Settlers:

Public No. 32, approved July 28, 1917, an act entitled "For the relief of homestead entrymen or settlers who enter the military or naval service of the United States in time of war" was enacted:

"That any settler upon the public lands of the United States; or any entryman whose application has been allowed; or any person who has made application for public lands which thereafter may be allowed under the homestead laws, who, after such settlement, entry, or application, enlists or is actually engaged in the military or naval service of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman, marine, national guardsman, or member of any other organization for offense or defense authorized by Congress during any war in which the United States may be engaged,





shall, in the administration of the homestead laws, have his services therein construed to be equivalent to all intents and purposes to residence and cultivation for the same length of time upon the tract entered or settled upon; and hereafter no contest shall be initiated on the ground of abandonment, nor allegation of abandonment sustained against any such settler, entryman, or person unless it shall be alleged in the preliminary affidavit or affidavits of contest and proved at the hearing in cases hereinafter initiated that the alleged absence from the land was not due to his employment in such military or naval service; that if he shall be discharged on account of wounds received or disability incurred in the line of duty, then the term of his enlistment shall be deducted from the required length of residence, without reference to the time of actual service: Provided, That no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year.

Sec. 2. That any settler upon the public lands of the United States; or any entryman whose application has been allowed; or any person who has made application for public lands which thereafter may be allowed under the homestead laws, who dies while actually engaged in the military or naval service of the United States as a private soldier, officer, seaman, marine, national guardsman, or member of any other organization for offense or defense authorized by Congress during any war in which the United States may be engaged; then his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, his minor orphan children, or his or their legal representatives may proceed forthwith to make final proof upon such entry or application thereafter allowed, and shall be entitled to receive Government patent for such land; and that the death of such soldier while so engaged in the service of the United States shall, in the administration of the homestead laws, be construed to be equivalent to a performance of all requirements as to residence and cultivation upon such homestead."

#### Desert Land Entrymen:

Public No. 36, approved August 7, 1917, "for the protection of desert land entrymen who enter the military or naval service of the United States in time of war," is in the following terms:

"That no desert-land entry made or held under the provisions of the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, as amended by the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, by an officer or enlisted man in the





Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Organized Militia of the United States shall be subject to contest or cancellation for failure to make or expend the sum of \$1 per acre per year in improvements upon such claim, or to effect the reclamation thereof, during the period said entryman or his successor in interest is engaged in the military service of the United States during the present war with Germany, and until six months thereafter, and the time within which such entryman or claimant is required to make such expenditures and effect reclamation of the land shall be, exclusive of the time of his actual service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Organized Militia of the United States: Provided, That said desert-land entry shall have been made by the said officer or enlisted man prior to his enlistment: Provided further, That each such entryman or claimant shall within six months after the passage of this Act, or within six months after he is mustered into the service, file in the local land office of the district wherein his claim is situate a notice of his muster into the service of the United States and of his desire to hold said desert claim under this Act: Provided further, That the term "enlisted man," as used in this section shall include any person selected to serve in the military forces of the United States as provided by the Act entitled: "An Act authorizing the President to increase temporarily the Military Establishment of the United States," approved May eighteenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen."

#### Non-Residence Homesteads in Idaho:

By Section 10 of the act approved August 10, 1917 (Public No. 40), section 6, of the act of June 17, 1910 (36 Stat., 531), providing for a non-residence homestead in Idaho, was amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 6. That whenever the Secretary of the Interior shall find any tracts of land in the State of Idaho, subject to entry under this act, do not have upon them such a sufficient supply of water suitable for domestic purposes as would make continuous residence upon the lands possible he may, in his discretion, designate such tracts of land, not to exceed in the aggregate one million acres, and thereafter they shall be subject to entry under this Act without the necessity of residence upon the land entered: Provided, That the entryman shall in good faith cultivate not less than one-sixteenth of the entire area of the entry which is susceptible of cultivation during the first year of the entry, not less than one-eighth during the second year, and not less than one-fourth during the third year of the entry and until final proof; Provided further, That after six months from the date of entry and until final proof the entryman shall be a resident of the State of Idaho."





## STOCK-RAISING HOMESTEADS.

The provisions of the stock-raising homestead law cannot, under the act as passed, be made available by applicants for entry until the designation of the lands shall have been made. This has not yet been done in any case and several amendments have been proposed in the Congress bearing on this feature. One of the most recent amendments is the one offered by Senator Jones of New Mexico, who was formerly First Assistant Secretary of the Interior, introduced August 11, 1917 (S. 2776). Senator Jones' amendment directs the Secretary of the Interior to designate lands applied for within six months from date of filing application therefor; and in the event that the Secretary shall fail to so designate them, such lands shall be deemed prima facie so classified in the States of New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota, wherein the application contains in substance a verified statement by the applicant, corroborated by the affidavits of two disinterested parties, that the land is of the character contemplated by the Stock-Raising Homestead Law. It is provided, however, that the filing of such application shall be only prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated, and contest proceedings may be initiated within one year after the allowance of the application, as to the character of the land.

The promptness with which large numbers of applications were filed for stock-raising homesteads shows that the law met a demand that has long been apparent to experienced observers and its popularity will increase as the results of its operation become more generally known.

## FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

### From Great Falls.--

In the comments and letters, both favorable and unfavorable, that have so far been made on the plan of taking final proof on the land, no one seems to have considered the practical working side of the proposition. Final proofs are falling due every day over the entire land district, which will require either several proof-taking officers, or fixing proof dates for localities, without regard to the proof-maker. The convenience of the proof-taker will be often of more consideration than the necessities of the proof-maker, all of which will not help the popularity of the Land Service.

### From North Yakima.--

Referring to the monthly publication, I have in mind an idea which may be of interest. In taking final proofs, I have on numerous occasions procured from the claimant, when submitting his testimony,





a photograph of his place, his house or points of interest in connection with his land. These pictures I have affixed to the final proof. Many of these pictures were beautiful, and usually showed what the homesteader considered the most attractive places from his point of view. Hunting scenes, boating, mountain, prairie, quaint bungalows, etc., were all shown. I have in mind the last proof I took submitted by an elderly lady whose land was in the Rainier National Forest, fronting on the "Sunset Highway" ten miles from the summit of the Cascade Mountains. She ran a sort of a hotel or "tea house" she called it, and sold milk and cream and furnished meals to the numerous tourists passing by. These people are always pleased when I ask them to let me have the picture to send up with their proof.

Such a picture furnished with each proof might be of great value in the future. In many cases it would be a hardship to the settler to furnish the picture, while in other cases he would be only too glad to have an excuse to have the picture taken.

#### From Carson City.--

Let me suggest to the readers of the "Bulletin" that they dig into their files and get out the May number, and re-read the article entitled "The Other Fellows View-point."

Failure to give the other fellow credit for doing his work faithfully while maintaining an extravagant opinion of our own causes a good many jolts to come our way. Finding fault with the other fellow is a disagreeable habit and lessens ones usefulness to the Service.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL FAIR AT ANCHORAGE.

The first competitive display of the products of the Cook Inlet section of Alaska will be held in Anchorage on September 3, 4 and 5th. It will be the first formal celebration of the progress made in the varied industries of the territory with especial reference to the achievements of the Inlet country in mining, agriculture, fishing and manufacturing during the past two years.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

##### Siletz Timber Lands.--

A public sale of timber lands in the former Siletz Indian Reservation, Oregon, is advertised to take place on the 25th of September, at the local land office at Portland, Oregon. The sale includes 3,259.54 acres of land, which are estimated to contain 170,620 M. feet of timber. The minimum price of the land and timber has been fixed at \$150,614.44.





### Flathead Timber Lands.--

Another opening of lands in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, will take place this month. The opening embraces 7,677.04 acres. The larger portion of this area was formerly classified as timber land, and these lands have been re-classified with regard to the value of the land for agriculture and horticulture. The homesteaders will also be required to pay for the timber. It is the first opening of Flathead timber lands to homestead entry.

### Public Sale Flathead Lands.--

Two hundred six tracts within the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, embracing an aggregate of 14,060.31 acres, an average of about sixty-eight acres each, were listed for sale at public outcry, at not less than the appraised prices, to the highest bidders; fifty-nine of the tracts situated in the Kalispell land district to be offered for sale at Kalispell commencing August 20, 1917; and the remaining tracts, in the Missoula land district, to be offered for sale at Missoula commencing August 30, 1917. The lands were classified as grazing lands, with the exception of a forty acre tract situated in the Missoula district which was classified as first-class agricultural land. The appraisements ranged from \$1.25 to \$4.00 per acre, with the exception of the first-class agricultural tract which was appraised at \$7.00 per acre. John McPhaul, Superintendent of the sale, has reported that every acre in the Kalispell district sold at an advance of approximately \$2,500.00 over the appraised price.

### Townsites.--

A report of the sale of town lots in Zurich, Montana, held on June 23, 1917, in the Milk River Irrigation Project, shows that forty-one lots were sold for \$746.75.

Reports have also been received showing the sale of one hundred and ninety-eight lots in Timber Lake townsite on July 10, 1917, for \$10,219, and in Dupree townsite on the same date twenty-five lots were sold for \$2,432. Said towns are in the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, South Dakota.

On July 2, 1917, two hundred and nineteen lots were sold in Duchesne townsite, Uintah Reservation, Utah, for \$5,095, and in Powell townsite, in Shoshone Reclamation Project, fifty-seven lots were sold for \$11,082.50.

A sale of lots in the townsite of Cedarville, New Mexico, took place on July 30, but no report of the proceeds derived therefrom has been received. Ninety-seven lots in the townsite of Inchelium, in the Colville Indian Reservation, Washington, were sold for \$3465.





Sales have been ordered to take place at Yellow Bay, August 23; Big Arm, August 25; Camas, August 27, in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, and at Deaver in the Shoshone Irrigation Project on August 29; at Tabor, September 10, and at Pablo September 13, in Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana; and at Belltower, Montana, on September 29, 1917. No reports have yet been received from any of said townsite sales.

The townsite of Anchorage, Alaska, the headquarters of the Alaskan Engineering Commission constructing the Government railroad in Alaska, was subdivided into lots and blocks in 1915, since which time three additions have been made to the townsite, and three sales have heretofore been made of lots therein, and a fourth sale has recently taken place, but no report of the result thereof has been received. The town now contains a population of more than five thousand.

On June 20, 1917, forty-seven lots were sold in the townsite of Wasilla, Alaska, for \$5540.

The other townsites, along the line of the Government railroad in Alaska, in which lots have been sold, are the Federal and Cliff Additions to the town of Seward, Nenana and Matanuska. A sale has also been scheduled to take place this month at the town of Moose. The coal and copper fields of the region along the Government railroad are tributary to these towns.

#### Oregon School Lands.-

A claim against the State of Oregon for upwards of 5000 acres of land has recently been adjusted in large part, the State heartily cooperating with the office in the matter. This claim arose out of a partial adjustment of the State's school land grant, it being found that indemnity lands had been given the State in excess of what was due. Further adjustment of this grant is now proceeding, some 2500 acres of indemnity school land in the Roseburg district having been certified to the State a few days ago. Other lists of indemnity school lands are to follow.

#### Forest Homesteads.-

During the past year notices were issued in accordance with the Forest Homestead Act of June 11, 1906 (34 Stat., 233), involving the restoration of 1124 lists of lands in national forests, by which 113,364.24 acres of agricultural lands were opened to homestead settlement and entry of not to exceed 160 acres each. The average entry area was 100.86 acres. In the previous year approximately 152,000 acres were restored, and the total area thus restored to date is about 1,950,000 acres.





Although the number of listings has diminished, the work incident to entries, amendments, appeals, etc., has not decreased. Final proofs are coming in in large numbers, and a large percentage of the entries describe the lands by metes and bounds.

#### Imperial Mesa.--

Numerous inquiries have been received regarding the opening of lands on the mesa in the eastern part of Imperial County, California, which are now withdrawn from settlement and entry under the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat., 338). It appears that these inquiries are based upon the newspaper report that on July 6, 1917, the Secretary of the Interior entered into a contract with the Imperial Laguna Water Company relative to the construction of an irrigation project to divert water from the Colorado River at the Laguna Dam for the irrigation of said lands.

For the information of interested parties it may be stated that certain preliminary steps must be taken, including a careful investigation as to the feasibility of the project, and an approval of the plans, which will consume considerable time, before these lands may be opened to entry, so that nothing can be said at this time regarding the date of the opening nor the manner in which it will be conducted.

#### QUOTH THE AGENT NEVERMORE.

I've traveled on the "Pennsy;" all along the eastern shore,  
And I've been to California, why a dozen times or more;  
I've roamed all thru the 'Sunny South with maidens gay and fair--  
In fact, I've always traveled, and I've been most everywhere.

And I often sit and ponder on the days long since gone by,  
When I rode in freights and Pullmans, and in dirgibles did fly,  
And I thot I never would be cured of longing just to go,  
Whether on the old Northwestern or the "jerky" B. & O.

Then I took a job with Baker investigating lands;  
I plodded thru the gumbo and staggered thru the sands;  
But still I never faltered, just went working right along,  
For travel was my one desire, and travel was my song.

But I took a trip the other night in "Upper No. 8,"  
In which I should have soundly snoozed, but almost met my fate.  
The Pullman rolled from side to side; ye Gods! how it did "buck;"  
I struck the ceiling forty times, and finally I stuck.





With my right I grabbed the hammock, with my left I hooked the bed,  
And offered up a fervent prayer, and this is what I said:

"Oh, God, I promise thee my heart will never crave to roam,  
If by thy care and gracious thot thou land me safe at home;"

"If thou wilt spare me once again to greet my little wife,  
I ne'er again will take the road that menaces my life;  
"And God, I'm cured of travel, for its charms I've lost my lovin;  
Since I went from "Chy" to Douglas on the Colorado Southern."

--R.B.

#### A FARM FOR FORTY CENTS.

"The cost of a certified photographic copy of a patent will be ordinarily forty cents (41 L. D., 334)."

This looked good to a man in Mississippi, so he sent up forty cents, and this is what he thinks of the transaction now:

"dear sir: i received yours containing a copy of a cash pattent since i received cash pattent i find the land is clamed by some land company plees inform me whether this cash patent entitles me to the land or not and what is the use of a cash patent as some say it is no good to me i was under the impression that a cash patent would entitle any one to a track of land plees inform me what to doe. goodby."

#### ICE FOR THE IGLOO.

The Alaska Railroad Record notes the allowance of a "permit" to "erect" an "ice house" at Anchorage.

That don't seem just right somehow. Next thing will be a coal yard in -- Texas.

Why the "permit"?

What for the "house"?

What was the matter with a wire fence around any chunk of the old town?





### HONOR ROLL.

The following members of the General Land Office are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

1. Jacob Berman, 1st Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.
2. W. S. Binley, 2d Lieut., National Army.
3. Alvin Colburn, Captain, National Army.
4. F. J. Connolly, 1st Lieut., Aviation Corps.
5. W. A. Crawford, Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.
6. R. H. Dalton, Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.
7. H. K. Dinan, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.
8. A. D. Hathaway, Captain, D. C. National Guard.
9. F. E. Hedges, Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.
10. H. L. Kays, 2d Lieut., D. C. National Guard.
11. A. C. Lakenan, Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.
12. C. C. Mullady, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.
13. Elmer Pendell, 2nd Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.
14. W. H. Ritenour, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.  
Accidentally killed in line of duty.
15. W. M. Sullivan, 2d Lieut., Sixth Regiment Infantry,  
U. S. Army.

The Bulletin would appreciate advice from the Land Service, outside of the General Land Office as to the enrollment of its members in the Military or Naval Service of the United States.





## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The resignation of Mr. William L. Kee, due to ill health, was noted in our last issue. For many years Judge Kee has been identified with the contest work of the office, where his ripe judgment and clear legal discrimination have often served to work out some of our most complex public land tangles.

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Mr. Howard B. Ricketts, who was transferred to the Forestry Service three years ago, is now at the training camp at the American University with the Forestry unit, and expects later to go to France.

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We are advised that Mr. J. P. Golden, Register of the Land Office at O'Neill, Nebraska, has entered the Second Officers' Training Camp at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

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Mr. Frank S. Hemmick of this office is now on duty in the Second Officers' Training Camp at Fort Myer.

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Mr. Clifford A. Rush, Special Agent, G. L. O., with headquarters at Helena, Montana, has been ordered to report at the Presidio, San Francisco, California, August 25th, for three months training in the Officers' Training Camp.

## TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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Vol. 1.

October 1, 1917.

No. 8.

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### THE STOCK-RAISING HOMESTEAD ACT.

Probably the most important and far reaching land legislation that has been enacted for many years is the act of December 29, 1916 (Public No. 290), known as the stock-raising homestead act. This legislation was the subject of much controversy, extended committee hearings and difference of opinion before its enactment; the administration and execution of the act has already presented numerous important questions and will doubtless present many more as work under the act is only started. In a broad and general way the larger cattle and sheep raising interests were opposed to this legislation, while the legislation was supported by those who believed that the remaining public lands would be better utilized by breaking them up into many small ranch homes. The stock men contended for a leasing or permit system for the regulation of grazing on the public lands something after the manner of the method now employed in the national forests; they argued that large areas of the remaining public lands which would be taken up under a section homestead law were of such an arid character that 640 acres would not support a family; that any attempt to do so would only result in failure and in a depreciation of the value of the range as now used. On the other hand, those in favor of the stock-raising homestead pointed out the results of the operation of the enlarged homestead and of the so-called Kinkaid homestead law in Nebraska, urging that under such legislation the country would produce an equal or greater supply of meat with numerous other products, and at the same time afford self-supporting homes for many families and render the lands ultimately





subject to taxation by the States. The latter view prevailed in Congress.

Briefly the law provides for a 640-acre stock-raising homestead on lands theretofore designated by the Secretary of the Interior as "chiefly valuable for grazing and raising forage crops, do not contain merchantable timber, are not susceptible of irrigation from any known source of water supply and are of such character that 640 acres are reasonably required for the support of a family." Residence and a habitable house are required the same as any other homestead, but permanent improvements to the value of \$1.25 per acre are required in lieu of cultivation. The act provides for additional entries of lands contiguous to the original, up to 640 acres for both, provided both consist of designated lands; such additional entries may be made before or after patent on the original. The act also provides for a second entry within 20 miles from the original, the area of both entries not to exceed 640 acres, and if insufficient land of the required character is available adjoining or within 20 miles of the original entry, same may be relinquished or reconveyed to the government and a new entry made in the same land district. The act further provides for preference rights to enter the lands adjoining by those who already have entries of less than 640 acres of designated lands. We have, therefore, to deal with under this act, designations, preference rights, second entries, two forms of additional entries, and exchange rights. The difficulties, complications and details of administering a law of this character are quite apparent. In addition to the above, the act provides for the withdrawal of lands needed for public stock watering places and for driveways for stock. Unlike any former legislation the act provides for a universal reservation to the government of all minerals, wherefore mineral lands are subject to entry under the act, without the necessity of classifications or hearings to determine known mineral character.

The immediate activity under this act in the way of applications and filings was unprecedented in the history of public land legislation. In round numbers, within four months after the law had been enacted, gross filings to the number of 60,000 had been made embracing an area of some 24,000,000 acres. Of course these filings were duplications in many instances either because of conflicting claims or because of the withdrawal of one filing to make room for another, but even allowing for all these duplications, the area filed on is enormous. It should be borne in mind that these filings commenced immediately after the enactment of the law before any instructions or regulations had been issued. The law specifically provides that applications may be made before designation of the land and suspended to await designation and that in the meantime, and until the application is allowed, no right to occupy such lands shall be acquired by the applicant. Thus close to a million and a half dollars in fees and commissions accumulated in the unearned accounts of receivers. While Congress provided for the designation of these lands it did not provide the funds with which to make the necessary field examinations as a basis of designation until some





months afterward, the field forces for that purpose having been organized by the Geological Survey just prior to the close of the fiscal year. At the close of the year, therefore, we are in the condition of having great numbers of applications and petitions for designations suspended in the local offices and this office without opportunity of taking further action thereon until the work of designation is under way. This has resulted in complications and in some cases in hardship. It is reported that many of these homesteaders immediately on making their filings proceeded to take up their residence on the land not realizing that the law specifically provided that they had no right on the land until after allowance of their applications, and that the allowance of the application was entirely contingent on the designation of the land or the non-withdrawal thereof for a stock driveway or water hold. The situation above described has been given considerable attention in Congress and legislation has been proposed either to designate the land outright by law or to provide for the allowance of the entries subject to future contest, or to insure the designation of the lands within a limited period. It is hoped that the work of designation now well started will pave the way for reasonably prompt disposition of this great number of applications, but it should be understood that any intelligent designation of the great areas covered is a task of no small dimensions, and that the adjudication of the cases, involving as it will examination of both original and final entries in many instances, must necessarily require a tremendous amount of detail work. At the best, the disposition of the work under this act, unless a very large force is provided, is certain to be delayed.

The matter of the designation of stock driveways has been the subject of no little controversy and difference of opinion, some urging that the creation of very extensive driveways is absolutely necessary to the perpetuation of the stock-raising industry, while others urge that large driveways are unnecessary and will only operate to withdraw desirable lands from entry. The office has determined that there is only one way to dispose of this driveway situation, and that is to hear all interests and to make a careful investigation in the field of all areas to be withdrawn.

On the whole, while there are bound to be difficulties in the administration of this act, and while during the period of readjustment there may be some decrease in the meat production, I believe that ultimately this legislation will prove beneficial and lead to a better and fuller utilization of the remaining public domain. It is too early yet either to condemn it or to predict its entire success. At any rate, it is clear to anybody at all familiar with the public grazing land situation that either legislation of this character designed to place the remaining grazing lands in private ownership, or legislation which would provide for some form of regulation of the use of the grazing areas was absolutely necessary.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

General Land Office.- John O. Sanders, of Texas, clerk at \$1000.  
Clarence R. Bradshaw, of Mississippi, copyist at \$900.  
Malcolm Moseley, of Alabama, copyist at \$720.  
Raymond W. Murphy, Frank C. Yoakley, and Malcolm S. Beaton, of the District of Columbia, messenger boys at \$480 per annum.  
Miss Mary C. Darling, and Miss Viola V. Minor, of the District of Columbia, and Mrs. Edith M. Strange, of New York, temporary copyists, at \$720 per annum.

Field Service.- Miss Felice Cohn, of Nevada, Assistant Superintendent of the Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations, at \$6.00 per diem.

Local Office.- Miss Elsie E. Hamilton and Miss Alma M. Myers, of Montana, typewriters at \$900 per annum, land office Miles City, Montana.  
Mrs. Cora Houghlan, of South Dakota, stenographer and typewriter, at \$900 per annum, land office Bellefourche, South Dakota.  
Miss Mary L. Henaby, of Oregon, stenographer and typewriter at \$900 per annum, land office Blackfoot, Idaho.  
Miss Clista E. Lease, of Montana, typewriter at \$900 per annum, land office Great Falls, Montana.  
McKinley W. Kreigh, of Kansas, clerk at \$1080, land office Great Falls, Montana, by reinstatement.

### Transfers.

General Land Office.- David B. Morgan, of North Dakota, clerk of Class Four at \$1800 to the U. S. Geological Survey.  
Miss Onie Rymer, of Tennessee, to the U. S. Tariff Commission.

Field Service.- George E. Hair, of South Dakota, from special agent in the Navy Department to special agent this office.





Guilford A. Leavitt, of Missouri, from clerk in the General Land Office to clerk in charge at \$1440 in the land office at Springfield, Missouri.

Abraham L. Zinn, of Colorado, stenographer and typewriter in the Alaskan Field Division, to the land office at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Local Office.-

George H. Bolt, of Maryland, from stenographer and typewriter, land office, Billings, Montana, to Junior Clerk in the Reclamation Service.

Promotions.

General Land Office.- Robert J. F. McElroy, of Pennsylvania, to Law Examiner at \$2000.

Russell E. Mikesell, of Ohio, to Law Examiner at \$1800.

James P. Briggs, of Georgia, and Arthur C. Beach, of Missouri, to clerks of Class Four at \$1800 per annum.

Edward L. Valentine, of Arkansas, Frank D. Robinson, of Missouri, Miss Katherine Horan, of Oklahoma, and Leander J. Moody, of Maine, to clerks of Class Three at \$1600 per annum.

Walter J. Ise, of Nebraska, Alfred Dresser, of Minnesota, Bernard L. McGarvey, of Pennsylvania, Miss Martha C. Smith, of Indiana, Miss Rosa Wrenn, of South Carolina, and Edgar C. Chambers, of Maryland, to clerks of Class Two at \$1400 per annum.

Miss Queenie Smith, of Mississippi, Emmett D. Gallion, of Virginia, Mrs. Mabel M. Dawson, of South Dakota, Fred L. Van Dolsen, of Indiana, George W. Billings, of Indiana, and Mrs. Aline S. Stump, of Alabama, to clerks of Class One at \$1200.

Richard R. Ramsell, of Iowa, Miss Ruth C. Weeder, of Michigan, Leo T. Farrell, of Iowa, Talmage Baker, of Louisiana, Miss Mary Z. Van Horn, of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Goldie G. Miller, of New Mexico, Miss Minnie M. James, of Illinois, and Miss Mary G. McVey, of North Carolina, to clerks at \$1000.





Miss Sara A. Creeden, of Ohio, Miss Mary E. Murphy, of Massachusetts, Frank J. Krattenmaker, of New Jersey, Erskine A. Roberts, of Florida, Arthur T. Edwards, of Tennessee, and Miss Sallie Rowe, of Louisiana, to copyists at \$900.

Local Office.-

Cash R. Cross, of Washington, land office Miles City, Montana, to land law clerk at \$1080.

Resignations.

General Land Office.-

Harry L. Underwood, of New York, law examiner at \$2200.

George W. Holland, of Oklahoma, clerk of Class Four at \$1800.

Charles Goldberg, of Massachusetts, clerk at \$1200.

Herbert M. Dodd, of Virginia, clerk at \$1400.

Frank S. Hemnick, of the District of Columbia, because of his entrance in the 2nd Officers' Reserve Corps Training Camp.

Lewis E. Hoffman, Clerk Class One at \$1200 per annum, to accept an appointment as general clerk, Engineer Corps, U. S. A., with the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

Archie M. Reed, of Alabama, laborer (classified) at \$660, because of his draft in the United States Army.

Frank J. Simonton, of the District of Columbia, messenger boy at \$660, because of his draft in the United States Army.

Land Service.-

Ulys Pyle, of Illinois, land law clerk at \$1080 per annum, land office Lewistown, Montana.

Mrs. Mamie Lamb, clerk at \$960, land office Glasgow, Montana.

William R. Yeilding, of Washington, stenographer and typewriter at \$1080, land office Buffalo, Wyoming.

Clarence H. Roberts, of Oregon, land law clerk at \$1140, land office Glasgow, Montana.





Field Service.- Glenn B. Morgan, of Indiana, Surveyor for the Inspection of Mineral Deposits, at \$1300.

Surveying Service.- Stanley H. Murdock, of Ohio, Transitman, at \$100 per month.

Wallace G. Shapcott, of Colorado, U. S. Surveyor at \$130 per month.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

A meridian station has recently been established on the roof of the New Interior Department Building at Washington for use in testing solar instruments of the Surveying Service. The latitude and longitude of the point were computed by reference to known stations from data furnished by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. The determination of the bearing of an azimuth mark on the Washington Monument, also a point on the clock of the Post Office Department Building (illuminated at night), consisted of a series of direct observations on the sun, a series of hour angle observations upon Polaris, and a series of observations upon Polaris at elongation. The results were in excellent agreement. The work was accomplished by W. H. Richards, Jr., and Albert Smith, Jr., U. S. Surveyors. The technical record of the observations and description of the meridian station and azimuth marks will be filed in the Surveying Division.

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It is believed that Groups Nos. 49 and 50, Utah, the surveys under which are now in process of execution, are about as remotely located with reference to established lines of transportation or supply bases as any surveys outside of Alaska now under consideration in the field. These groups are in the extreme southern central part of the State, west of the Colorado River and are exceptionally difficult of access. Some supplies have to be hauled 175 miles; even fuel and water must be packed long distances at times over hastily built trails to the survey camps. It is reported that a considerable portion of the area grouped for survey is underlaid with what is known as Colorado-cretaceous coal and that indications of asbestos, copper, gypsum, manganese and natural cement rock are to be found throughout that particular part of the country. The survey now being executed, which was applied for by the State of Utah, will develop additional information on this subject.

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Geo. D. D. Kirkpatrick, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 6, after a brief visit to Salt Lake City and to Groups 59 and 45, Utah, during the early part of September returned to Nevada and is now with the field parties of Haigh, Pidgeon and Reppert.





General rains in southwestern Oregon have finally extinguished the fires in the heavy forests in that section and dispersed the dense smoke which has been hindering the survey parties on the Oregon and California land grant during the past month.

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A conference of Assistant Supervisors of Surveys and office representatives, such as has heretofore been held in Denver, will not be called this fall. Many of our engineers, surveyors, transitmen and field assistants have already entered the army or the army training camps. Others are being called daily to service in the military branch of the government. By constant and earnest attention to the breaking in of new men and to preparation in the matter of supplies and camp and transportation equipment we have been able to keep the work moving in a satisfactory manner in the face of the many obstacles confronting all field services this season. We must continue to keep it moving satisfactorily. There must be no let-up in any one district, or even in any one party in any district. We must all be on the job all the time in close touch with every part of the work so that we may be in position to act promptly and effectually should emergency arise. The Denver conferences have been conducive to much good and will be resumed in the future as occasion warrants.

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Late unofficial advices from Juneau announce the arrival on August 25th of a baby girl at the home of John P. Walker, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys for Alaska, who is at present with the field parties in the Cook Inlet country. It is quite within the realm of probability that the glacier-studded coast of Alaska will take on a new charm and beauty for Mr. Walker as he nears the Icy Strait this fall on his return voyage to Juneau.

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E. R. Ames, Clerk-draftsman and Arthur Schilling, Temporary Clerk-draftsman, office of the Surveyor General, Phoenix, Arizona, have been selected for the National Army. They leave shortly for the training camp at Fort Riley, Kansas.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, has returned to Arizona from northern California, and is now with the parties of Thorn, Kimmel, Sechrist and Averill, Groups 72 and 73, north of the Grand Canon.





Chiefs of parties in District 3 have been directed by the Assistant Supervisor to plow wide furrows round their camps as an emergency protection against fire.

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Montana, east of the Continental Divide, is experiencing an unusually long dry spell. The last rain of any consequence in that part of the State occurred early in June. West of the divide, however, rain has fallen in sufficient quantities to extinguish the extensive forest fires which have been raging in that part of the country.

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Robert A. Farmer, U. S. Surveyor, recently detailed to District No. 1, has been assigned to the survey of D'Aste townsite on the Flat-head Indian Reservation, Montana.

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Theodore Cronyn, U. S. Transitman, District No. 1, has lately enlisted in the 22d regiment of U. S. Engineers.

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S. W. Goodale, law examiner detailed to examine offices of Surveyors General, returned to San Francisco September 17th.

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The survey of the addition to Wolf Point townsite on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation was completed by Ranney Y. Lyman, U. S. Surveyor, early in September.

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Guy H. Richardson, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 1, has been commissioned a captain in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army. He has not yet been assigned to duty by the War Department.

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Alonzo H. Adams, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 8, has been detailed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to inspect the manufacture by the General Heating and Ventilating Company of that city of iron corner posts for Land Office surveys. Mr. Adams served in a similar capacity when the Chattanooga Car and Foundry Company of Chattanooga, Tennessee, had the contract for the manufacture of iron corner posts for our use two years ago.

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Members of the Matanuska coal land survey parties of two years ago as well as his many other friends will learn with regret of the untimely death last month of William Ritz by drowning while attempting to





ford Goose Creek, Alaska, on horseback. Ritz, who was familiarly known as "Shorty" in the Cook Inlet country, has held the position of head packer with F. W. Williamson, U. S. Surveyor, for several years past. He was a tireless worker and an expert in his line.

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A recent exhibition of good judgment and prompt action on the part of one of the younger transitmen of District No. 8 seems worthy of note. A fresh fire was discovered in a large body of timber in which one of the survey camps was pitched. The flames had not made great headway at the time, but under the influence of a rising wind and with every advantage of position they threatened to sweep up and over a broad heavily timbered slope and destroy the camp and everything else within a radius of several miles. The chief of party was absent on another part of the survey group. The associate transitman however was quite equal to the occasion. He temporarily suspended his line work, sent a messenger to the chief of party and another to the Forest Ranger, threw a dam across a good sized creek towards the top of the slope, diverted the water on to the hillside and returned to his survey work, leaving a couple of men to direct the stream flow. The fire was effectually checked before it had done any material damage. The Forest Ranger who arrived later advises that the transitman's prompt and sensible action prevented a very serious fire.

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Reports received by the Supervisor of Surveys of the cost per meal per man in camp indicate the existence of a genuine effort to keep down expenses for food and to effect economy in its preparation and use. The result on the whole is very gratifying. There is, however, still room for further economy in this respect in some districts. The final reports for the season showing the average cost per meal per man in camp in each district should afford a basis for some interesting and instructive comparisons.

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The latest bear story is from the upper Whitefish River country, Montana. While offering no new features, (the advance, retreat, siege and final retirement on both sides having been conducted in accordance with the usual and best traditions of the service), certain incidents of the episode when more fully known may tend to support the position taken by that colored man who enlisted in the infantry branch of the army rather than in the cavalry. He allowed that being carried by a horse had some advantages over going it on foot in certain situations, but in case the General ordered a retreat he himself didn't "care to be bothered with no horse." The various distance records recently made in the upper Whitefish River country by the several classes of entrants will be reviewed with interest.





"Nature has given us two ears, two eyes and but one tongue to the end we should hear and see more than we speak." ---- Socrates.

Socrates must have had the "Bulletin" in mind when he wrote this. The best things cannot be said.

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Mr. C. L. DuBois, Chief of the Survey Division, has just returned from an official visit to the offices of the Surveyors General in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. Among other things, he reports that due to the unusual season of clear weather the output of surveys in these States will be unusually large for the present surveying year. While in Denver Mr. DuBois was in conference with the Supervisor of Surveys and the Inspector of Surveyors General Offices, as to the recommendations for salaries and expenses to be submitted to Congress in the estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919.

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Associate Supervisor Kidder has returned to the office from the Leech Lake, Minnesota, surveys. He reports that the work has been blocked out and a considerable portion completed. The subdivisional work is of such proportions, however, that it will require another season for its completion, but to accomplish such result it will be necessary to increase largely the working force in the field. There are forty-seven full and fractional townships, and the Indian Office has requested that a large part of the reservation be divided into twenty-acre lots for allotment purposes.

#### PAYMENT OF THE OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TAXES.

The story of the grant to the Oregon and California Railroad Company in aid of the construction of a railroad crossing the State from north to south near its western boundary, embracing in the aggregate over 4,200,000 acres of land, together with suit to declare a forfeiture of the grant, the result of this suit, and the ultimate action of Congress revesting title in the United States to so much of the grant as remained unsold July 1, 1913, is more or less familiar to the public land world; but the full scope of the act of revestment, the wide field of action involved in its administration, is not well understood.

Approximately 2,300,000 acres of lands were restored to the public domain by the act of revestment which required the classification of such lands into agricultural, timber lands and power site lands, each of which classes were to be disposed of under specific provisions of said act. The work of classification was prosecuted during last season with all vigor so that at the end of the season we had covered by field examination 900,000 acres of the revested lands. This field work has been examined and tabulated in the office with the view to the opening,





at the earliest date practicable, of the lands found to be agricultural, furnishing, at the time of the opening, such literature as will put within reach of applicants all the information we have obtained in our work of classification. In the meantime the work of classification during this season has been prosecuted diligently in the field and every effort is being made to bring this work to a completion at the earliest date practicable.

But the classification of the land was only one of the heavy administrative duties imposed by this act. Sec. 9 thereof provided:

That the taxes accrued and now unpaid on the lands re-vested in the United States whether situate in the State of Oregon or the State of Washington, shall be paid by the Treasurer of the United States, upon the order of the Secretary of the Interior, as soon as may be after the approval of this act.

This provision had its origin in the fact that for a period of three years, pending forfeiture proceedings, the company had paid no taxes on the lands patented thereto under its grant, and Congress, in revesting title in the United States to the unsold granted lands, recognized its obligation to discharge this indebtedness.

The magnitude of this undertaking will be somewhat appreciated when it is remembered that the grant traversed the entire western end of the State of Oregon, passing through eighteen counties, also through the County of Clarke in the State of Washington, and that no taxes had been paid thereon for a period of three years. The Department, however, set about the ascertainment of the taxes that should be paid under this provision of the statute immediately after its passage and, prosecuting the work with all diligence, called to its aid the services of Hon. Oswald West, of Portland, Oregon, who, in conjunction with the Field Division at Portland, had charge of the matter.

Inasmuch as the taxes paid by the United States will ultimately become a charge against the railroad company, in the final adjudication of rights and equities between the United States and the company, it will be seen that more than ordinary care was called for in the ascertainment, and payment of the exact amount of taxes due and no more; but the schedule of tax claims on behalf of each county was procured after a careful check of each item as against the records of the several counties, the railroad company and the General Land Office and placed on file early in the present year. Several reasons, however, contributed to a delay in the payment of the taxes, mainly the fact that the company, challenging the constitutionality of the act of revestment, had raised this question in connection with its appeal from the decree of the United States District Court. Of course, until such time as the constitutionality of the act was settled, the Department could not proceed with the payment of the taxes. Later the Supreme Court, by its





decision of April 23, 1917 (37 Supreme Court Reporter, 443), upheld the validity of the act; since which time, due to the cooperative relations, imposed by the act of revestment, between the Secretary of the Interior and the Department of Justice, some time has been necessarily consumed in conferences between these Departments to determine the proper procedure under said act. All this, however, has been finally settled and, on September 20th, the Secretary of the Interior submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury his request for the issuance of Treasury warrants for the payment of the taxes found due the several counties, aggregating the sum of \$1,504,841.60. This sum represents the taxes due said counties for the years 1913, 1914 and 1915, computed with interest, penalties and costs up to the date of the act of revestment, June 9, 1916, and within a very short time will doubtless be received by the several counties to whom it is due.

#### ALASKA COAL DEVELOPMENT.

Mr. Lars Netland, lessee of Units 10 and 11 of the Matanuska coal field, commenced development of the property on August 6, according to advices received by the Land and Industrial Department. These units embrace 1400 acres near Chickaloon.

Unit No. 10 lies between Kings River and Chickaloon River, less than one half mile west of the latter stream and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Matanuska River. The coal beds which outcrop on Kings River, according to the Government's report, probably extend through the unit.

Unit No. 11 is located in the Chickaloon River valley, mainly north and west of the stream and less than a mile from Matanuska River. A number of coal beds outcrop along the Chickaloon River in this unit and constitute one of the best surface showings of the entire field. The coal of Unit 11 is pronounced to be chemically the best so far discovered in the district.

Mr. Netland recently completed a thorough examination of the property and has expressed himself as well pleased with the outlook for a substantial production. He contemplates an extensive development of the mines at an early date. -- Alaska Railroad Record.

#### FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

##### From North Platte.--

If final proofs were submitted upon the land applied for, before an officer properly qualified for such duty, I believe it would result in saving an immense amount of work both in the local office and in your office. The officer in such case having the home, or the farm or whatever the character of the claim might be, immediately under





his observation, and knowing what the claimant and his several witnesses were trying to cover by their testimony, would see that the proofs were consistent with the facts and so prepared as to obviate any objections as to form or regularity. To me the scheme seems good.

From Denver.-

Register and Receiver of the Denver land office desire to heartily endorse the plan of proof-taking on the land by a special officer appointed by and under the control of the Interior Department. The careless way in which land matters are handled by many outside officers is a constant source of expense to claimant and no end of annoyance to all concerned. A recent instance comes to mind.

A final proof had been set before a U. S. Commissioner at a town in the remote part of this district. An urgent telephone call informed us that the claimant and her witnesses were at the office of the commissioner on the day advertised; that they had left their harvest fields and travelled a long distance only to find the commissioner gone on an extended fishing trip leaving no information as to when he would return. Hot words over the wire informed us that "something should be done to this officer who was our representative up there," and it was utterly impossible to convince the irate claimant that the Interior Department had nothing to do with the appointment of these commissioners and absolutely no control over them.

Numerous complaints have been made to this office that many court clerks and U. S. commissioners pay no heed to the regulations governing the taking of final proofs, the testimony of claimant and witnesses being agreed upon in conference with the officer and later reduced to writing and signed by the parties. In many instances also complaints are made of overcharging and while such complaints may be investigated under the statute, the Interior Department having had no authority in the appointment of these officers, is virtually powerless to correct these evils.

In all such cases the net result is to saddle the blame on the local office and make it the scapegoat for all the sins of omission and commission perpetrated by the outside officers.

We hope the Honorable Commissioner will succeed in his efforts along the line indicated and thus remove a just cause of complaint among homesteaders.

#### FREE SURVEY OF HOMESTEADS IN ALASKA.

The hardship entailed upon homestead settlers in Alaska, who are required either to await the arrival of township survey or to pay for the survey of their homestead claims, has been recognized for a number of years by this office.





In House Bill 13487, introduced in the 63rd Congress, a provision was made that surveys of Alaska homesteads should be made without expense to the settler and this provision received the full approval of the Department but the measure failed of passage. Since then, in each of our annual reports, special recommendation has been made to the same end, but up to the present time Congress has failed to take favorable action thereupon.

It is hoped that during the coming session of Congress that relief to homestead settlers in this matter will be secured. It is only just that the Government should make these surveys without expense to the settlers, after satisfactory proof has been submitted on the homestead claim, and by grouping such surveys a great portion of the cost may be eliminated. The general theory that public lands are offered for disposal, not burdened with the cost of survey can only be made applicable in the Territory of Alaska by the execution of the survey after entry, without cost to the entryman, instead of prior thereto, as elsewhere. The postponement of the right of entry until after survey would certainly prove a serious deterrent to the settlement of the Territory, and the expense of survey, if placed upon the homesteader, would have a similar effect.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR UNAPPRAISED INDIAN LANDS.

It frequently happens that the commissions appointed to classify and appraise surplus lands in Indian Reservations through inadvertence fail to include the classifications and appraisements of certain tracts, and frequently tracts included in Indian allotments subsequently become subject to disposal under public land laws through the cancellation of the allotments. In cases where the law requires the classification and appraisal of the lands, the question arises whether any right can be initiated thereto by settlement or entry prior to the classification and appraisal.

At one time local officers were permitted to receive applications for such lands and to suspend the applications pending the classification and appraisal, any applications presented for the lands during such time to be subsequently acted upon in the order in which they were received. A number of years ago this practice was discontinued and the present practice is that applications for unappraised lands should be rejected and not suspended. The present practice was approved by Departmental decision of July 10, 1917, in the ex parte case of William Marquardt (Lemmon 033007), in which the Department stated:

"Until the lands in question are appraised they are not subject to entry under the act providing for their disposal, and there is no authority for receiving and suspending a homestead application therefor."





## MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICE OF HOMESTEADERS.

In response to a letter from one of our local officers commenting on the act of July 28, 1917, and our circular instructions issued under this act, the Commissioner took the opportunity to make some timely suggestions on this legislation which are here reproduced:

"I have received your letter of the 11th instant, and am pleased to observe the patriotic spirit which inspired you to criticise our circular of instructions under the act of July 28, 1917.

The act is modeled after that of June 16, 1898 (30 Stat., 473), and in construing both acts it is essential to bear in mind that they were not enacted for the purpose of creating new rights under the public land laws, but for the preservation of rights existing at the time of entry into the military or naval service of the United States. See the decision of the Secretary of the Interior in *Murray v. Chapman* (31 L. D.; 169), construing the act of '98, in which the Department also quoted the following language used by the Committee reporting the bill:

The object of this bill is apparent on its face. It simply provides that homesteaders who enter the military or naval service of the United States shall have time they are absent in such service counted in making their final proof, the same as if they continued to reside on the land.

In the same decision reference was made to the debates on the bill, in the course of which it was said:

This bill is intended to protect and cover the rights of settlers who enlist in this war - men who had homes and who since establishing them have enlisted in defense of their country.

There is one statute providing for entry by a soldier then in the service, Sec. 2293, U. S. R. S., which is applicable only when the soldier has a family residing upon the land to be entered, and I think that had Congress intended to extend that right, it would have done so specifically. Moreover, legislation of that sort certainly would not be in such terms as would limit its benefits to those persons who, after enlistment, are so placed that they found it possible to execute their applications in the proper county or land district.

The words "or is actually engaged" are hardly susceptible of the construction you would give them, as they are plainly intended to cover all forms of military service which might be rendered other than under an enlistment, and not to define conditions precedent.





The words would be superfluous in the connection you propose to use them, as one who enlists is actually engaged in contemplation of the law.

Our circular received the consideration and approval of the Department, and I would have no authority to change it even though I entertained a different view of the meaning of the law which, for the reasons stated, I do not.

It is my opinion that under existing legislation, while a soldier has the same right to make homestead entry as any other person, he must also do so subject to the same conditions and obligations as are assumed by persons not in the military or naval service except, as noted, under Sec. 2293."

A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY.

To the Officers and Employees of the  
Interior Department.

I wish to call your attention to the efforts which we are making in this Department to keep pace with the rest of the world in keeping ourselves in fit condition for the strains of these urgent times.

Some of you may not know that recently there has been added to our force a special representative of the Secretary whose function it is to give such counsel as may be needed to those in the Department who find themselves under embarrassment in small or large things. This lady is Miss Greeley, who has had extensive experience in this kind of specialized effort in some of the larger institutions of the country. She keeps, for instance, a list of physicians and of hospitals whose fees are reasonable, and of boarding houses. It is not her work to take the initiative or impose her services upon anyone. She may be found, however, by any who wish to see her at Room 6104 in the Interior Building.

In this building we also have an infirmary (Room 1207) in charge of a skilled physician, Dr. O'Conner, who is there to give temporary aid not merely in case of accident but at any time when immediately needed. He is not to take the place of our regular physicians, but if ill during working hours feel no hesitancy in consulting him.

We are fortunate also in having a restaurant in the building which no doubt will grow in importance as winter comes on. This restaurant will soon be transferred to the roof, where a \$50,000 structure is to be built to accommodate it, and \$10,000 will be spent in equipping it.





In the Pension Office and Patent Office buildings we also have infirmaries in charge of men who have been of much service, Dr. Helton in the Pension Office and Dr. Darby in the Patent Office. A temporary restaurant has recently been installed in the Pension Office and a permanent one will soon be installed in the Patent Office.

In addition there is the pleasure and the comfort of the Home Club, which is now coming into its fourth year.

FRANKLIN K. LANE.

#### ALASKA AND THE FARMER.

At a meeting of the Tanana Valley Farmers' Association, Fairbanks, Alaska, recently, Professor C. C. Georgeson, Agronomist in charge of experimental work in Alaska under direction of the Agricultural Department, stated:

"Geologically speaking, Alaska is still a young country. The ice cap, which at one time covered all of North America as far south as the State of Ohio, left Alaska at a much later period than it left what is now the central western states; so, our western prairie lands had become enriched by the growth and decay of generations of vegetable life for many thousands of years before the Alaska soil could be improved by the same process. The remnants of this old ice cap are still to be found in the glaciers which are so abundant in the mountainous sections of Alaska."

The ground is frozen and not tillable much before the middle of May, and the harvest season closes with the last of September. It is found, however, that by proper treatment the soil yields abundant harvests; for it must not be forgotten that daylight reigns practically all of each twenty-four hours during that time.

It is useless for the Alaskan farmer, no matter how energetic he may be, to attempt to farm much before the middle of May, because the ground is frozen hard, and cannot be turned over. During September the harvests must be gathered and stored in warm root cellars and warehouses, because winter begins generally the first of October. Snow covers the ground the rest of the year, with practically no rain or slush.

From this, it will be seen that the Act of Congress requiring homestead entrymen to live seven months each year on their claims, and granting permission to be absent five months, if reversed, would be satisfactory to the interior Alaskan farmers, and perhaps improve local conditions.

Railroad construction by the Alaskan Engineering Commission will do much toward putting the wonderful, practically unknown, Alaskan Interior before the American people. New markets will develop for the





Interior Alaskan produce, and it will be easier for needed farming equipment to be shipped in promptly for use on the farms.

The short agricultural seasons require hard, continuous work. Many of the present farmers are single, unmarried men, and when the summer's work is done, they go to the social centers to spend the winter months. The development of the homes, the little local school houses, the neighborhood clubs, etc., have yet to come to Alaska. But it is the hope of those now settling down in earnest in this country, that such things will come in time, and that farm life in this north land will be as desirable as in the northern States and Canada.

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Hon. John McLean, of Ohio, the third Commissioner of the General Land Office, was appointed by President Monroe on September 11, 1822.

He was a member of Congress from 1813 to 1816; Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio from 1817 to 1822; Commissioner of the General Land Office from September, 1822 to June 25, 1823. President Monroe had become acquainted with his special fitness for the office during his services on the congressional committee dealing with public lands, and hence named him for the place. The capacity for his duties, which he displayed, served to abridge his continuance in them. In 1823, President Monroe offered him the appointment of Postmaster General. A few years later General Jackson arrived in Washington to take possession of the Presidency and sent for Judge McLean and asked him to retain the postoffice. The War and Navy Department were also tendered him, but these were declined. Finally, President Jackson offered him a seat on the Bench of the Supreme Court. In all these offices his ability and integrity gave him eminence as a statesman, and later won for him the support of many as a candidate for President "because he would continue as a dispassionate and impartial judge in the Presidential chair in which only a statesman should be seated to hold the scales of justice between the North and the South." Among his supporters were James W. Grimes, of Iowa, in 1848, and Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania, and Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, in 1856.

During Judge McLean's incumbency in Congress, this anecdote is told of him. A Mr. McKeon of New York had been nominated by Mr. Madison for a captaincy or lieutenantcy in the Army. Before that body his rejection had been procured, so it was alleged, on the ground of his being an Irishman. He was a stranger to Mr. McLean, but as soon as he heard of the cause of the rejection, he took up the matter of his own accord with great zeal, brought it to the President's particular attention, remonstrated with many members and at last by dint of much effort procured him to be nominated and confirmed. Captain McKeon proved to be a man not only of great worth, but in due time an excellent officer.





A decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, often cited, in which Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the court, is that of Buchanan v. Alexander (4 How., 20) involving the liability of money in the hands of U. S. disbursing officer to attachment, on a writ issued out of a state court, in which he said:

"The funds of the government are specifically appropriated to certain national objects, and if such appropriations may be diverted and defeated by state process or otherwise, the functions of the government may be suspended. So long as money remains in the hands of a disbursing officer, it is as much the money of the United States, as if it had not been drawn from the treasury. Until paid over by the agent of the government to the person entitled to it, the fund cannot, in any legal sense, be considered a part of his effects. The purser is not the debtor of the seamen.

It is not doubted that cases may have arisen in which the government, as a matter of policy or accommodation, may have aided a creditor of one who received money for public services; but this cannot have been under any supposed legal liability, as no such liability attaches to the government, or to its disbursing officers."

Below is a list of the land districts during Commissioner McLean's regime:

Detroit, Michigan Terr'y.	Cape Girardeau, Jackson,
Marietta, Ohio.	Missouri.
Zanesville, Ohio.	Lawrence county, Poke Bayou,
Steubenville, Ohio.	Ark. Territory.
Chillicothe, Ohio.	Arkansas, L. Rock, A. T.
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Northern district of Ouachita,
Wooster, Ohio.	Louisiana.
Piqua, Ohio.	Southern district of Opelousas,
Delaware, Ohio.	Louisiana.
Jeffersonville, Indiana.	Southeastern district of New
Vincennes, Indiana.	Orleans, Louisiana.
Brookville, Indiana.	St. Helena, C. H. Louisiana.
Terre Haute, Indiana.	Jackson C. H., Mississippi.
Kaskaskia, Illinois.	S. of Pearl River, Washington,
Shawneetown, Illinois.	Mississippi.
Edwardsville, Illinois.	Huntsville, Alabama.
Palestine, Illinois.	Cahawba, Alabama.
Vandalia, Illinois.	St. Stephens, Alabama.
St. Louis, Missouri.	Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
Franklin, Missouri.	Conecuh C. H., Alabama.





## LAND OFFICE NOTES.

### Townsites.-

A sale of lots on the installment plan took place August 10, in the townsite of Inchelium, in the Colville Indian Reservation, Washington, resulting in the sale of 97 lots for the sum of \$3,465.00. At the conclusion of the offering the sale was adjourned to a future date.

The townsite of Yellow Bay is adjacent to Flathead Lake in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, and a sale of lots therein was held on August 23, on the installment plan, resulting in the disposal of 27 lots for \$905.00. The lots were reappraised and the sale closed. The unsold lots are, therefore, subject to private entry at the reappraised price.

The townsite of Big Arm is on the Flathead Lake in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana. A sale of lots was held at said townsite on August 25, which resulted in the sale of 17 lots for \$397.00. Camas, in said Indian Reservation, adjoins the Camas Medicinal Hot Springs, and on August 27, 62 lots were sold for \$1578.00. The sales in these two townsites were closed and the unsold lots were reappraised and are held subject to private entry at the reappraised price. Tabor and Pablo are also located in the Flathead Reservation and on July 19, 1917, sales of lots were ordered to be held on September 10th and 13th, respectively, and it is stated in an informal report that the two sales aggregated more than \$31,000.00.

A sale of lots was held at Deaver, in the Shoshone Irrigation Project, Wyoming, on August 29, at which 91 lots were sold for \$29,380.00.

The above town lot sales aggregate more than \$66,725.00.

Sales have been ordered to take place at Belltower, Montana, September 29; Batesville and Sanish in the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, on October 5th and 8th, respectively; at Newell in the Bellefourche Irrigation Project, South Dakota, November 3rd, and at Heyburn in the Minidoka Irrigation Project, Idaho, on November 10th.

### Abandoned Military Reservation.-

On August 22, 1917, the Secretary of War turned over to this department for disposal under the act of July 5, 1884 (23 Stat., 103), an abandoned military reservation situated in the north side of the entrance to Gig Harbor, narrows of Puget Sound, within ten miles from the city of Tacoma, Washington.





The land involved is described as Lots 5 and 6, Sec. 5, and Lot 1, Sec. 8, T. 21 N., R. 2 E., W. M., and contains 81.80 acres. The reservation is reported to contain valuable sand and gravel deposits. The lands are at present in the possession of lessees and sublessees under revocable leases given by the War Department, permitting the use thereof for residence and grazing purposes. The law for the disposal of said lands provides for their survey, if necessary, and for their sale at not less than an appraised price.

#### Sale of Crow Indian Lands.-

The remaining lands in the ceded portion of the Crow Indian Reservation, Montana, aggregating about 85,000 acres were recently offered for sale at public outcry at Billings, Montana, under the supervision of the Superintendent of Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations, and every acre offered was sold, at very gratifying prices, when the total result is considered. The minimum price received was \$2.00 per acre; the maximum was \$20.00 per acre; the average was \$4.00 per acre.

The average price was about double the amount at which the lands were subject to disposition to homesteaders but a few months before the offering. They were then subject to a modified form of homestead entry at \$2.00 per acre.

The lands were opened to homestead entry in 1906 at the rate of \$4.00 per acre. The homestead price was later reduced to \$3.00 per acre; then to \$2.00 per acre. No appropriation of the lands at those prices was made under the homestead laws.

Some of the lands were classified as coal lands and the offering of these lands, with a reservation of the coal deposits, was made possible by the passage of the Act of February 27, 1917 (39 Stat., 944).

#### Opening of Flathead Indian Lands to Homestead Entry.-

A report from the Superintendent of Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations expresses satisfaction with the method recently employed for opening to homestead entry 7,677.04 acres within the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana. The lands opened consisted of 2,693.46 acres of non-timbered land, appraised at \$7,150.72, and 4,983.58 acres of timbered land, appraised at \$24,706 for the land and \$32,697 additional for the timber. The superintendent stated that it will probably be some time before all the lands will be appropriated owing to the values placed on the land and on the timber.

#### Entries and Payments for Fort Peck Indian Lands.-

If the demand for Fort Peck Indian lands, Montana, continues at the present rate, the supply will soon be exhausted. By fiscal years the number of entries made in the reservation and the area entered are as follows:





Fiscal year ending	Number of entries made	Number of acres entered.
June 30, 1914,	172	26,783.43
June 30, 1915,	409	77,440.25
June 30, 1916,	810	198,346.69
June 30, 1917,	1390	302,316.65.

In all, something more than 1,000,000 acres in the reservation have become subject to homestead entry.

The lands were appraised at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$7.00 per acre, and under the law one-fifth of the purchase price was required at the time of entry, and the balance was required in five equal annual installments.

A bill introduced in Congress to grant entrymen an extension of time to make payment of amounts due, or to become due, was amended, and was passed March 2, 1917 (Public No. 371), so as to allow them to obtain an extension of time only for one-half of such amounts. Instructions issued under said act, dated April 13, 1917 (Circular No. 544), require entrymen to pay amounts in which they are in default on or before November 1, 1917, or to pay interest thereon at the rate of five per centum per annum up to the time when the next payment after that date becomes due, and, at such time as the next installment becomes due, the entrymen must pay at least one-half of all moneys past due and interest at the rate of five per centum per annum on the one-half of any installment for which an extension of time for payment is desired.

#### Sale of Flathead Indian Lands.-

The Superintendent of Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations has reported that at the recent sale of undisposed of lands within the former Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, Missoula land district, 6614.26 acres sold for \$13,127.45. The result of the sales of Flathead lands in the Kalispell land district was reported in the last issue of the Bulletin.

#### Sale of Coeur d'Alene Indian Lands.-

The remaining lands of the former Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, Idaho, were offered at public sale to the highest bidders at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on August 16th and 17th, 1917, under the supervision of the Superintendent of Opening and Sale of Indian Reservations. In all, 1,326.98 acres were sold for \$1,694.97.

#### Non-residence homesteads in Idaho.-

The provisions of the act of August 10, 1917, Public No. 40, for non-residence homesteads in Idaho, in cases where a water supply sufficient for the maintenance of a home is not found, have been made the subject





of office instructions under date of August 25, 1917. The instructions will be known as circular No. 556; a copy of the act will be found in the September Bulletin.

#### Military service of homesteaders:-

Full instructions were issued by the General Land Office August 22, 1917, with the approval of First Assistant Secretary Vogelsang, as to the provisions of the act of July 28, 1917, Public No. 32, for the relief of homestead settlers on public lands, who entered the military or naval service during the war. A copy of the act will be found in the September Bulletin. In writing for this circular, ask for No. 564.

#### Patents and certified copies.-

For the month of September up to the 24th, the office issued two thousand seven hundred and twenty-four patents, furnished two thousand eight hundred and ninety-one certified copies of patents, and an aggregate of four thousand five hundred copies of other official documents.

#### Scarcity of mineral surveyors.-

Word comes from some of the mineral fields of difficulty experienced, on the part of mine owners, to secure the services of mineral surveyors. The call for such men in other classes of employment has outrun the supply. Skilled field engineers are just now in great demand due to conditions growing out of the war.

### HOWL TWENTY-THREE.

#### A Howl of a Special Agent.

The Indian is my motorcycle; which I did not want.

2. It maketh me to lie down on rocky highways; it throweth me into ditches of irrigating waters.

3. It shaketh my soul; it leadeth me into paths of obstructing cows for the Government's sake.

4. Yea, though its important bolts lost in the valleys may be found by searching, I fear more evil: for when I am not pushing it up steep hills and through the sand, heat and dust discomfort me.

5. I repair blowouts in the presence of homesteaders: in the desert it runneth out of oil; deep ruts turneth it over.

6. Surely I swear at it so much every day of my life; that I may dwell in hell on account of it forever.





## ISOLATED TRACTS OF OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TIMBER LANDS.

The act of June 9, 1916 (39 Stat., 218), revesting title in the United States to so much of the grant to the Oregon and California Railroad Company as remained unsold July 1, 1913, provides in section 4 for the sale of the timber on lands classified as timber lands --

"at such times, in such quantities, and under such plan of public competitive bidding as in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior may produce the best results."

In several instances it has become known to the General Land Office that small bodies of land so classified, are practically isolated from lands of a similar character revested in the United States by said act, but are in the immediate vicinity of timber lands in private ownership where logging operations are in progress. The Oregon and California timber lands for the most part are rough and rugged, if not actually mountainous in character, requiring large expenditures in the way of logging railroads, and similar equipment, to successfully cut and remove the timber, all of which involves a heavy expenditure; so that a sale of timber thus situated cannot be advantageously made except to operators in the immediate vicinity, who are already provided with the proper equipment for handling the timber. If opportunities for such sales are allowed to pass, it might be many years before the Government would be enabled to sell the timber at a fair estimate of its value; so it has been determined that such a market for isolated tracts should be taken advantage of whenever it occurs, and to this end, regulations providing for the sale of small bodies of Oregon and California timber lands that are thus situated have been prepared and received the approval of the Department.





N O T I C E.

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The Interior Department War Work Committee reports the following numbers of finished articles made by the Interior Department Association, many of which have already been sent to the French hospitals through the American Clearing House, and a few of which are now on hand and will be sent to the Neuilly Hospital:

Sheets,.....	256	
Pillow cases,.....	336	
Pajamas,.....	154	
Sweaters,.....	54)	A number of these have been
Helmets,.....	55)	given to our own men who
Socks,.....	111)	have gone to the front.

MRS. FRANKLIN K. LANE.

September 8, 1917.





### HONOR ROLL.

The following members of the General Land Office are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Jacob Berman,      | 1st Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.                                      |
| 2. W. S. Binley,      | 2d Lieut., National Army.   |
| 3. Alvin Colburn,     | Captain, National Army.   |
| 4. F. J. Connolly,    | 1st Lieut., Aviation Corps.   |
| 5. W. A. Crawford,    | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 6. R. H. Dalton,      | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 7. H. K. Dinan,       | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.   |
| 8. A. D. Hathaway,    | Captain, D. C. National Guard.  |
| 9. F. E. Hedges,      | Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.   |
| 10. Lewis E. Hoffman, | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 11. H. L. Kays,       | 2d Lieut., D. C. National Guard.  |
| 12. A. C. Lakenan,    | Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.   |
| 13. C. C. Mullady,    | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.   |
| 14. Elmer Pendell,    | 2d Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.                                       |
| 15. W. H. Ritenour,   | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.<br>Accidentally killed in line of duty. |
| 16. W. M. Sullivan,   | 2d Lieut., Sixth Regiment Infantry,<br>U. S. Army.                        |

The Bulletin would appreciate advice from the Land Service, outside of the General Land Office as to the enrollment of its members in the Military or Naval Service of the United States.





AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Mr. Claude L. Snow, present Chief Clerk in the Bureau of Markets, Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Fred J. Hughes, Assistant Chief Clerk, in the same bureau, are old friends of the Public Land Service, each having been formerly employed in the office of the Chief of Field Division at Salt Lake City, Utah.

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Hon. Charles E. Davidson, Surveyor General of the Territory of Alaska, is in the city on official business in connection with the public surveys of the Territory.

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Special Agent Arthur N. Presmont, is in the Reserve Officers training camp at Fort Niagara, New York.

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Hon. John H. Fimple, formerly Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office, made a brief call at office headquarters on the twenty-sixth ultimo. He is now a member of the law firm of Lynch, Day, Fimple and Lynch, of Canton, Ohio, an old firm of attorneys of high standing in the State.

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Mr. John Jensen, at one time a member of the Field Service on duty in this office, and now a practicing attorney in Salt Lake City, is in Washington in the interest of matters pending before the Reclamation Service.

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The resignation of Mr. William H. Woodward, due to ill health, is noted with regret. For many years he has been identified with the work of the Contest Division, where he was recognized as a capable and painstaking attorney.

TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:-

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

November 1, 1917.

No. 9.

## THE CHANGING WEST.

The general public doubtless has little realization of the many changes, in many instances amounting to complete transformation, that have been going on in the west during recent years. Southern Wyoming and southern Idaho are two striking examples recently coming under our observation, the change in the former resulting largely from mineral development while in the latter it is agricultural. The view from the train along the main lines of the railroads through these sections has not changed materially from what it was twenty years ago; a casual disinterested traveller going through the country in this manner would see little to indicate the really big things that are going on. So far as such appearances go Wyoming is still a stock range. But take a side trip on the branch line and go up to Casper, in Natrona County. The train is loaded to the guards, upper and lower berths all full, not with stockmen and farmers alone, but with oil drillers, operators and brokers. The conversation relates a little to cows but very much to oil. Oil is the thing that has placed Wyoming on the map; it is bringing people into the State by the trainload, money by the millions, and revitalizing everything in the State, not excepting the tax rolls.

Casper is the center of the oil excitement. It is a busy, seething town of probably fifteen thousand with accommodations for about half that number; at the hotels one rents a bed instead of a room; two refineries are operating continuously and increasing their plants; pipe lines run in from forty to fifty miles from the oil fields and more are building; two more refineries are operating at Greybull and another is to be built in the Big Buddy field. Freight teams and loaded trucks by





the hundred are transporting supplies and equipment to the fields; difficulty is experienced in securing sufficient tank cars to handle the business; it all reminded us of the old days at Tonopah and Goldfield--- a typical mining boom, with all the accessories. Probably one half dozen producing fields have already been brought in, though as yet Salt Creek is far and away in the lead as a producer; the State is being combed by geologists and prospectors for new "domes", and large sums are being expended in purely exploratory work. The promoter is already busy and doubtless much stock will be sold and money expended on ground that is hopeless. But it is scarcely safe to condemn an oil proposition in Wyoming, so long as the money goes into the ground, until development has clearly shown a prospective field to be barren. All of the wise ones (including the U. S. G. S.) drew a big black mark around the Salt Creek dome to show the limit beyond which there was no use drilling; but a tenderfoot came along and drilled away outside of this line and got oil, and now "West Salt Creek" is the busiest part of the field in the way of development.

Except for some agricultural development Wyoming has just about held its own during recent years; the State remained a very suitable place in which to hold Frontier Day celebrations; there was scarcely any mineral production at all except coal; not until 1910, did the outside world generally begin to sit up and take notice of Wyoming oil. While as yet these fields are not to be compared with California and Oklahoma, they are large and important and Wyoming is being completely made over as a result.

Twenty years ago the chief productive industry of southern Idaho consisted of raising cattle and sheep on the open range; though the great Snake River, having its origin in the Jackson Hole and Yellowstone Park country in Wyoming, enters the State of Idaho on the east and flows in a wide curve to the south, thence to the north to join the Columbia on the west side of the State, its waters were permitted for the most part to flow unhindered to the sea and the possibilities of the immense fertile sagebrush valleys continued unrealized; only small diversions were made for the reclamation of the bottom lands. The larger utilization of the "mighty Snake" was no poor man's game; it required men of nerve and vision, backed by immense capital, to swing such an enterprise; not until Uncle Sam and the big corporations took hold of the matter was it possible to work out the wonderful agricultural development in southern Idaho which we now find. As in Wyoming you must get off the main line of the limited trains and travel on the branch feeder lines if you will see and appreciate much of what is going on. Twin Falls might be called the principal center of these reclaimed areas; at least it is the largest of the new towns; it is a strictly up-to-date little city with a population of perhaps twenty thousand and only about ten years old; this is the center of the Twin Falls South Side project, considered the most successful Carey Act project in the country. Along side of it is the Minidoka project of the Government; at the present time







it is a standoff as to which is the more successful. Just across the river is the Twin Falls North Side project of some 150,000 acres which is rapidly developing into the equal of the others. Besides these are the Oakley, the Salmon River, the Idaho, the Mountain Home, and numerous others, all of which are reclaimed from the waters of the Snake River and its tributaries. Altogether these projects probably aggregate anywhere from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 acres transformed from sagebrush to the most productive lands in the world, mostly within the last ten years. This year an income of \$50.00 to \$100.00 per acre is not uncommon. Alfalfa is probably the prevailing crop; it produces from three to six tons per acre, and this year brings \$15.00 per ton in the stack; other crops bring proportionately high prices, and irrigated farm lands bring from \$100.00 to \$250.00 per acre. True, the story of these projects involves high finance, failures, reorganizations, mistakes, sacrifices and suffering, but to drive over them now it is evident that these things are all pretty much a matter of history. The present fact and result is the successful reclamation and utilization of otherwise arid lands on a large scale, thereby transforming southern Idaho from a cow range into as prosperous and progressive a community of farm homes and towns as will be found anywhere.

How fortunate that these two new sources of fuel and food supply were developed and well under way before the war started. The Land Department has contributed its part and has had its functions to perform in both of these very remarkable developments.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

### Appointments.

General Land Office.-- Frank T. Snyder, of Pennsylvania, and Clarence R. Bradstreet, of Mississippi, copyists at \$720 per annum.

Field Service.-- Miss Capitola G. Allison, of Washington, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, office Chief of field division, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Mrs. Anna H. Blom, of Montana, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, office Chief of field division, Helena, Montana.

Local Office.-- Paz Valverde reappointed as Register, Clayton, New Mexico.

Charles A. Mansfield reappointed as Receiver, Williston, North Dakota.

Charles L. Decker, reappointed as Surveyor General of Wyoming.

Thomas E. Owen, reappointed as Receiver, Clayton, New Mexico.

Miss Lovenia L. Condon, of Idaho, typewriter at \$900, land office Hailey, Idaho.

Miss Mary A. Kennedy, of Oregon, stenographer and typewriter, at \$900, land office La Grande, Oregon.

Miss Anne Officer, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, land office Glasgow, Montana.

Miss Matilda S. Vanderbeek, of New Mexico, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Harry C. Bradley, of New Mexico, clerk, land office Las Cruces, New Mexico, at \$900 per annum, authorized by Executive Order of October 6, 1917.





### Transfers.

General Land Office.- Miss Virginia E. Wrenn, of Virginia, from clerk at \$1000 to the same in the Department of Labor.

Miss Susie Keel, of North Carolina, from clerk at \$1000 to clerk at \$1200 in the Department of Agriculture, States Relations Service.

Miss Julia Banks, of Pennsylvania, from clerk at \$1200 to the same in the Office of the Secretary.

Thomas W. O'Brien, of Pennsylvania, from clerk at \$1400 to clerk at \$1800 in the Department of Justice.

J. Harry Byrne, of District of Columbia, from clerk at \$1600 to the Treasury Department, Internal Revenue, as clerk at \$1400.

#### Local Office.-

Jacob Braun, of New York, from land law clerk at \$900 in the Sterling, Colorado, land office, to the land office at Montrose, Colorado.

Miss Eva H. Chapman, of Colorado, from clerk at \$1260 in the Great Falls land office to the same position and salary in the land office at Clayton, New Mexico.

Robert E. L. Webb, of Arizona, from Deputy Clerk, Department of Justice, to clerk at \$1320, land office Phoenix, Arizona.

Miss Mary G. Kearney, of California, from stenographer and typewriter in the office of the Chief of the San Francisco field division, to the Post Office Department.

### Promotions.

General Land Office.- Posey J. Altizer, of Kentucky, to Law Examiner at \$1800.

Sam Houston Carr, of Kansas, to clerk at \$1620.

John A. Robb, of Indiana, and Frank H. Caldwell, of Virginia, to clerks of Class Three at \$1600.





Miss Ruth Levey, Miss Mary L. Hadley, and Clinton A. Quencer, of New York, and Charles Wolf, of Pennsylvania, to clerks of Class Two at \$1400.

Charles R. Lombard, of Maine, Wade H. Carter and Miss Lenore L. Stites of California, John Q. Gatts of Ohio, Edward J. Conover, and Miss Mary G. Welsh of New York, Miss Agnes E. Kempf, of Missouri, and Miss Annie E. Earp, of New Jersey, to clerks of Class One at \$1200.

Miss Ellie D. Bouldin, of Virginia, Mrs. Sophronia P. Erradi, of District of Columbia, Mrs. Edith V. Kendall, Stanley W. Fenn, of New York, Miss Sara A. Creeden, of Ohio, Mrs. L. P. Webster, of Massachusetts, and John M. Simpson, of Wisconsin, to clerks at \$1000.

Harmon L. Broomall, of Delaware, to copyist at \$900.

George W. Boyd, of Virginia, and Raymond W. Murphy, of District of Columbia, to messenger boys at \$600.

#### Resignations.

General Land Office.- Miss Hazel A. MacDonald, copyist at \$720.

Local Office.- Miss Helen R. Pepper, of Arizona, at \$1080, stenographer and typewriter, land office Phoenix, Arizona.

#### Separations.

James Y. Hamilton, of Colorado, clerk of Class Two at \$1400, in this office, because of his commission as Captain in the Quartermaster's Reserve Corps.

Luther R. King, of Maryland, stenographer and typewriter, at \$1020, land office Blackfoot, Idaho, because of his enlistment in the Army.

Fletcher Meredith, clerk at \$1200, because of ill health.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

The office of the Supervisor of Surveys has been moved into larger quarters on the same floor in the Federal Building at Denver, Colorado, so as to accommodate surveyors from the Eastern District when necessary during the indoor season.





A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, has been offered and has accepted a commission as First Lieutenant in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army. He has not yet been assigned to duty by the War Department.

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The Entiat Valley resurveys, included in Group No. 18, Washington, have been completed in the field. This resurvey presented many complicated problems which, however, have been solved, it is reported, in a satisfactory manner.

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Herman Jasckel, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 2, has recovered from a recent operation for appendicitis.

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The work of cruising and classifying the lands in the Oregon and California Grant is being prosecuted as rapidly as possible with a view to completing it this season. The present force on this work consists of thirty six cruisers and as many compassmen, as well as the necessary cooks, teamsters and other assistants.

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A summary of fragmentary surveys in the Eastern District accomplished under the direction of the Commissioner as ex officio U. S. Surveyor General, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1917, has been included in the consolidated report of the regular work in the Western Districts, and hereafter a monthly report will be added to those submitted by the U. S. Surveyors General. The surveys of the Eastern District during the past fiscal year were extended into eleven states.

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Word has been received of the death last month at Deadwood, South Dakota, of Orville H. Southmayd, U. S. Surveyor, of Surveying District No. 3. Mr. Southmayd has been ill for some time. Last summer he took an extended leave and went to the Coast in the hope of recovering his health. In Mr. Southmayd's death the Service loses a high class engineer and the community an honorable and respected citizen.

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Gerald A. Sorrels of Grants Pass, Oregon, recently appointed Temporary Transitman, has been assigned as associate with Fred Monsch, U. S. Surveyor, Group No. 35, Oregon.





Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys, is on an official trip to points in Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

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Walter N. Ross, Draftsman and Computer, who has been engaged in field and office work in connection with the preparation of returns of fragmentary surveys in the Eastern District, has lately been transferred from the Washington office to the office of the Supervisor of Surveys, Denver, Colorado. Mr. Ross will continue in the same line of work he has heretofore been engaged in, particularly in the preparation of plats of surveys within Indian reservations in the Eastern District. The change to Denver at this time will afford closer cooperation with the surveyors.

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William E. Hiester of Idaho, recently appointed Temporary Transitman, has been assigned to duty on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota, as associate with Earl G. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor.

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Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, is in the Pacific Coast states arranging for the fall transfers of parties from the North to the South. He will return to Denver about November 10th.

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Many forms of personal sacrifice made in the cause of Liberty have come to light during recent months. They all challenge our admiration, but none more so than the one reported from District No. 3. It is said that the members of the field parties in Nebraska and South Dakota have quit the use of tobacco and are applying the money so saved to the purchase of Liberty Loan Bonds. This is going some. In some districts tobacco quitting is pretty well down the list of sacrifices to be made. But they all say no sacrifice is too great to be made these days.

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A. E. Compton, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 4, is with the Perkins party on the boundary line between Colorado and New Mexico. He has recently visited the field parties on the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation.

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Guy P. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor, and Glenn R. Haste, U. S. Transitman, have completed the dependent resurvey of nine townships lying along the Rio Grande just above El Paso, under the Rio Grande Reclamation Project. This completes twenty townships under this Project, the resurvey of which was complicated by old meander lines of the shifting Rio Grande and by numerous private land grants and small holding claims. Messrs. Harrington and Haste are now on Group No. 71, New Mexico.





C. W. Devendorf, U. S. Surveyor, is now engaged in re-establishing the north boundary of the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. This boundary line passes over Blanco Peak, one of the highest mountains in the State of New Mexico. Every effort is being exerted to complete the line in the higher altitudes before the first snow.

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The Townsite of Lida in the southern part of Nevada, which has been occupied for a number of years, is to be surveyed and disposed of under Section 2384, U. S. Revised Statutes. Special instructions for the survey were issued by the Surveyor General on October 3, 1917.

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One hundred and thirteen U. S. Surveyors were engaged in active field work on the 15th of October. Considering the time of the year when winter weather is beginning to impede progress, and the loss of men by army exigencies, this is an unusually good showing.

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The abandoned military reservation at Bayside, New Jersey, near Point Comfort on Raritan Bay, situated 20 miles southeast of New York City, was subdivided in October for disposal, U. S. Surveyor W.H. Richards, Jr., executing the surveys. The lands will be appraised at an early date and sold according to the public land laws.

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The beds of Golden and Swan Lakes, comprising approximately 4000 acres, in Mississippi County, Arkansas, have been decided by the Department to be public lands of the United States, erroneously omitted by the surveyor at the time of the original survey and subject to survey and disposal.

The surveyors will be on the ground early in November for the purpose of extending the public land lines over these tracts, preparatory to platting and opening the lands to entry.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL FAIR, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA.

The Alaska Railroad Record of October 2nd, contains a very interesting and instructive account of the recent industrial and agricultural exhibit at Anchorage, Alaska, from which the following extracts are taken:

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The First Annual Alaska Agricultural Industrial Fair, held at Anchorage on September 3, 4 and 5, was a signal success both financially and as to the class and number of the exhibits displayed. Every industry of the Cook Inlet region was well represented, including agriculture, fishing, dairying, livestock and quartz and coal mining. To the three thousand visitors who passed through the gates, the fair was a revelation, even to those who were presumably well informed as to the resources of this section of Alaska. The agricultural display was particularly complete, and included well arranged exhibits of all products of the local farms and gardens. Potatoes rivaling in size and quality the boasted "Big Baked Potato" served by the railroad lines of the West, and turnips, rutabagas, cabbages and cauliflower of enormous size were displayed in large quantities. Green peas, growing on vines measuring over ten feet in height, carrots, beets, parsnips, celery, kohlrabies, tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, onions, radishes, kale, mushrooms and berries of various kinds were features, of size and quality equal to the products of the older settled sections of continental United States.

The many high grade specimens of minerals were notably complete, and included ore from the Willow Creek, Talkeetna, Sunrise and other mining districts contiguous to the Government railroad. The gold quartz, placer gold, telluride, copper, iron, silver, lead and limestone on exhibit were truly prophetic of the great wealth to be made accessible with the completion of the railroad lines through the heart of the immense mineral areas between Seward and Fairbanks. The development which has taken place in the Willow Creek, Cache Creek, Talkeetna, Yentna, Mount McKinley, Broad Pass, Sunrise and other mining districts barely amounts to a scratch on the surface, and each future Alaska fair, it is safe to predict, will surpass its predecessor in the quality and quantity of mineral exhibits.

The coal mining industry, which in this section is less than one year old, created an extremely favorable impression. Specimens of bituminous coal from Moose Creek, Eska Creek and Chickaloon, in the Matanuska field, and lignite coal from Kachemak Bay and Susitna River were prominently displayed; also samples of blacksmith coal and coke from Chickaloon. Some of the samples of coal shown weighed over one ton each.

#### MINING CLAIMS - ANNUAL ASSESSMENT WORK SUSPENDED.

Joint Resolution To suspend the requirements of annual assessment work on mining claims during the years nineteen hundred and seventeen and nineteen hundred and eighteen:





Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order that labor may be most effectively used in raising and producing those things needed in the prosecution of the present war with Germany, that the provision of section twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the United States which requires on each mining claim located, and until a patent has been issued therefor, not less than \$100 worth of labor to be performed or improvements to be made during each year, be, and the same is hereby, suspended during the years nineteen hundred and seventeen and nineteen hundred and eighteen: Provided, That every claimant of any such mining claim in order to obtain the benefits of this resolution shall file or cause to be filed in the office where the location notice or certificate is recorded on or before December thirty-first, of each of the years nineteen hundred and seventeen and nineteen hundred and eighteen, a notice of his desire to hold said mining claim under this resolution: Provided further, That this resolution shall not apply to oil placer locations or claims.

This resolution shall not be deemed to amend or repeal the public resolution entitled "Joint resolution to relieve the owners of mining claims who have been mustered into the military or naval service of the United States as officers or enlisted men from performing assessment work during the term of such service," approved July seventeenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

Approved, October 5, 1917.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

##### Town Lot Sales.-

A sale of lots on the installment plan took place October 5, 1917, at the townsite of Batesville in the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, resulting in the sale of 102 lots for the aggregate sum of \$2,918, nearly \$2,000 over the appraised price. On October 8, 1917, eleven lots in the townsite of Sanish, in said reservation, were also sold for the aggregate sum of \$904, the appraised value being \$275.

Sales have been ordered to take place at Nowell, in the Bellefourche Irrigation Project, South Dakota, on November 3rd, and at Heyburn in the Minidoka Irrigation Project, Idaho, on November 10th. Further sales of town lots have also been ordered in the townsite of D'Aste in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, November 15th, and also in the First Addition to Wolf Point, in the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana, on November 20th.

Note has heretofore been made relative to the sale of lots on July 24, 1917, at Powell in the Shoshone Irrigation Project, Wyoming, in which the reports on the sale are now at hand. Such reports show the sale of 57 lots for \$11,022.50. The lots were sold on the installment plan and \$2,904.50 was paid.





#### Alaska Townsite Withdrawals.-

July 28, 1917, an Executive Order was issued withdrawing certain lands along the line of the Government railroad in Alaska for the townsite of Potter Creek, and also on October 8, two Executive Orders were issued withdrawing lands along the said railroad for two more townsites.

#### Water Supply of Olathe, Colorado.-

October 5th an Executive Order was issued withdrawing 640 acres of land in the State of Colorado in aid of pending legislation, granting the same to the town of Olathe for the protection of its water supply.

#### Disposal of Flathead Indian Lands.-

At the opening to homestead entry of 50,259.13 acres of Flathead agricultural and timber lands, in September last, which lands were divided into 92 units, there were 22 applications filed for units or parts of units for which there were no conflicting applications, and 48 other applications were filed for 17 units. To determine priority of right of filing the names of the conflicting applicants were written on cards, and the cards placed in envelopes, on which there were no distinguishing marks. After being thoroughly mixed the envelopes were drawn, one at a time, then opened by a disinterested person, and the names of the applicants announced by the Register of the land office. (The number of applicants for these lands was not large owing to the high prices placed on the land and timber.) The system adopted worked successfully and there was no confusion.

#### Siletz Timber Land.-

The sale of this timber was advertised to take place at Portland, Oregon, on September 25, 1917. The offerings included 170,620,000 feet of timber on 3,259.54 acres, the land and timber together being appraised at \$150,614.44. It appeared on the day of sale that the lands had not been cruised by prospective purchasers capable of handling such a large proposition, and therefore the sale was postponed to enable them to examine the lands. Two bids were submitted at the offering, one for 120 acres, of one unit, and the other for an entire unit, but neither of these bids was submitted by a mill man, and the bid for the unit was less than the appraised price. There were present quite a number who would probably have purchased forty-acre tracts, but it was not considered advisable to dispose of the lands in that form. The sale has not been closed, and another date for receiving bids may yet be fixed by the Superintendent of Sale.

#### Rifle Range at Carlsbad.-

An executive order issued October 6, 1917, withdrawing 720 acres, near Carlsbad, New Mexico, to be utilized as a rifle range by Company "B", First New Mexico Infantry.





## RECENT INSTRUCTIONS.

### Homestead Entry - Judicial Restraint.-

The effect that should be given judicial restraint, when assigned as a reason for non-compliance with the homestead law, has often been a matter of consideration and decision. The instructions of Acting Secretary Vogelsang, October 20, 1917, are a radical departure from former holdings and should be duly noted by the service. The instructions follow:

I have received and considered your memorandum of September 11, 1917, and accompanying papers, in the matter of homestead entrymen who, subsequent to date of entry, are placed under judicial restraint; that is, who, because of conviction for a crime or crimes are incarcerated in jails or other institutions and thereby prevented from continuing residence upon and improvement of their claims.

I am of the opinion that such restraint should not, under the law, or as a matter of policy, be held to excuse compliance with the requirements of the homestead law, but that such conviction and restraint do not warrant the cancellation or forfeiture of the entry.

I have therefore to direct that in all such cases the entries shall, upon the filing of evidence of such judicial restraint, be placed in a state of suspension and so held until the termination of the judicial restraint, whereupon the entryman shall be required to comply with the requirements of the applicable homestead laws as a prerequisite to final proof and patent.

### Homestead Entries - Payment of Indian Price - Military Service.-

The instructions of October 20, 1917, by Acting Secretary Vogelsang will be of no little interest to those who have made homestead entries of lands formerly embraced in Indian Reservations, who in addition to complying with the ordinary requirements of the homestead laws, are also under obligation to pay a fixed sum per acre for the benefit of the Indians, and have been called to the Military or Naval service of the United States. The instructions follow:

Considerable areas of land formerly embraced in Indian reservations have been opened to disposition by acts of Congress under the homestead laws, upon condition that the entrymen, in addition to complying with the ordinary requirements of those laws, shall pay a sum per acre, fixed by law or appraisement, for the benefit of the Indians, in annual installments.





Some of the persons who have entered or purchased this land and who have not completed payment of the annual installments have been called to the military or naval service of the United States, and for that reason will be unable to pay the installments of purchase money as they become due. Several bills are pending before Congress which would bring relief to those in the military service until the conclusion of such military service or until the end of the present war.

The policy of Congress as expressed in a number of acts already passed for the protection of the public-land claims of those in the military service indicates an intention to prevent forfeiture of existing rights. I have therefore to direct that all such entries made prior to entrance into the military or naval service, and which are or may become subject to cancellation and forfeiture because of failure of the soldier or sailor to make payment when due, shall be held suspended pending consideration by Congress of legislation designed to extend such payments beyond the period of military service or the existing war. You will take the action necessary to carry this direction into effect.

#### STOCK DRIVEWAYS.

During the month of October, the Secretary has created stock driveway reservations in Colorado and Wyoming and temporarily withdrawn certain areas in Idaho and Montana for stock driveway purposes under authority of section ten of the act of December 29, 1916 (39 Stat., 862). The withdrawals are subject to prior valid claims initiated under the public land laws other than the said act of December 29, 1916.

His order of October 9 reserved 74,851 acres in western Colorado as stock driveways in connection with the ranges on the White River, Holy Cross, Cochetopa and Rio Grande National Forests. On October 20th 63,978 acres in eastern Wyoming were reserved, such reservation including two driveways over the public lands and a number of areas along county roads reserved in connection therewith. The reserved lands are located in Converse, Johnson and Sheridan counties.

October 19th 5,135 acres in southern Idaho, and on the 27th 119,310 acres in southwestern Montana were temporarily withdrawn pending further investigation to determine the necessity and advisability of reserving the lands for stock driveway purposes.





## OREGON AND CALIFORNIA LANDS.

### Warning.

Many inquiries are being made to officials of this Department relative to the opening to settlement of the lands within the limits of the grant to the Oregon and California Railroad Company in Oregon, title to which was revested in the United States by the act of June 9, 1916 (39 Stat., 218).

Under the terms of the act no disposition can be made of the revested lands until after due classification thereof. Due diligence in the matter of classification has been exercised, and during the season of 1916 over 900,000 acres were examined in the field. This field work has been made the subject of study and tabulation in the office, for the purpose of putting out a leaflet containing all available information as to the agricultural lands when opened to entry.

None of these lands are yet open for entry and settlement and will not be until they have been duly restored in the manner directed by said act under such rules and regulations as may be adopted to govern such restoration. In the meantime, it is utterly useless for any person to attempt to acquire any preference right upon any of these lands. There is no method or manner by which any settlement or filing can be made that would give any preference right for the purchase or acquirement of any of these lands, or of any right whatever which can be respected by the Department. When the lands have been classified, and the information obtained thereby made available, public notice will be given from time to time fixing and defining the terms upon which the lands are to be disposed of and the time of their disposition.

Attention has been called to the fact that there are at work in the field locators claiming that through their services preference rights can be secured by the payment of a small fee. The public is warned that no such preference right can be obtained, and that any money paid to such locators will be money thrown away.

It is the intention of the Department when the lands are ready to be thrown open for settlement and entry, which will be at the earliest practicable date, to notify the public thereof so that everyone will have an equal opportunity.

### NEW METHOD ADOPTED FOR OPENING UNAPPROPRIATED TRACTS IN FORMER INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

As stated in the last issue of the Bulletin, it frequently happens that the commissions appointed to classify and appraise surplus lands in Indian Reservations, through inadvertence, fail to include the classifications and appraisements of certain tracts, and frequently tracts embraced in Indian allotments subsequently become subject to disposal through

ORDER AND DISCIPLINE

Article

Every member of the Order shall be subject to the discipline of the Order, and shall be liable to expulsion therefrom for any violation of the rules and regulations of the Order. The Order shall have the right to suspend any member who is found to be in violation of the rules and regulations of the Order, and to reinstate him upon such terms as the Order may deem proper.

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the cancellation of the allotments. Attention was called to the fact that the Department had held that applications presented for the lands prior to the classification and appraisal should be rejected and not suspended.

Heretofore, upon the classifications and appraisements being made, the Register and Receiver have been notified, and the lands opened to entry by the first qualified applicant. A more equitable method was approved by the Department October 15, 1917, for the opening of two tracts in the former Standing Rock Indian Reservation, South Dakota. Under these regulations, applications to enter the lands under the homestead law only may be presented during a certain period, such applications to be treated as filed simultaneously and disposed of on a certain date as directed by regulations of May 22, 1914 (circular No. 324, 43 L. D., 254). The lands will become subject to settlement and entry generally seven days after the date fixed for simultaneous applications. The Register and Receiver were directed to post a copy of the regulations in their office, to send a copy to the postmaster nearest the land for posting in his office, and to hand a copy to the local press for publication, if desired as an item of news.

It is the intention to have regulations similar to the above issued in connection with openings of this kind which occur from time to time.

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Major General James Shields, hero of three wars, and senator from three states, of Irish birth, at the age of sixteen emigrated to the United States.

Ten years later he was a member of the State Legislature of Illinois, when Chicago had less than 4000 inhabitants.

At 33 he was a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois.

In April, 1845, he resigned this position to accept, from President Polk, the Commissionership of the General Land Office.

He resigned his position as Commissioner to take part in the Mexican War.

On July 1, 1846, at the age of 36, he was commissioned a Brigadier-General and assigned to Illinois troops. He served under General Taylor on the Rio Grande; under General Wood in his campaign against Chihuahua, and next under General Scott where he entered on his campaign for the capture of the city of Mexico. President Polk breveted him Major General





of volunteers for gallant and meritorious service at Cerro Gordo.

In 1848 he was elected U. S. Senator from Illinois. His experience as Commissioner made him invaluable on the Committee of Public Lands.

January 22, 1850, Senator Shields from the Committee on Public Lands to which were referred the numerous petitions of the Registers and Receivers of the General Land Office, asking increase of compensation for entry of military bounty land warrants, reported "An Act respecting the compensation of the registers and receivers of the United States land offices for locating Mexican bounty land warrants."

On February 25, 1850, Senator Shields presented a petition of citizens of Illinois, representing that, in their opinion, the right to live includes the right to a place to live, and in accordance with that opinion, they asked the passage of a law granting the freedom of the public lands in limited quantities, to actual settlers not possessed of other lands.

Nothing was so important at that time for the welfare of the west as the improvement of rivers and the building of railroads and canals, upon which the development of the western states and territories depended. No one understood this better than Senator Shields and no one more faithfully assisted in committee and on the floor in securing necessary legislation therefor. During his term as Senator from Illinois, some of the most important questions were discussed that have agitated the nation. The paramount measures considered and legislated upon were:

The admission of California. The building of continental railroads. The granting of public lands to aid in the construction of railroads, canals, and for educational purposes. The chartering of the Illinois Central Railroad, which opened up the country from the great lakes to the Gulf. The homestead act, as well as measures to more efficiently organize the army.

In advocating the extension of the Illinois Central to Mobile, Senator Shields said:

"As it is to connect north and south so thoroughly, it may serve to get rid of the Wilmot proviso and tie us together so effectually that even the idea of separation will be impossible."

In 1855 Shields moved to Minnesota and on the admission of that State into the Union he became its first U. S. Senator.

Later he became a citizen of California, and on August 19, 1861, was commissioned Brigadier General of volunteers for that State, rendering distinguished service as an officer, especially on the famous battlefield of Winchester. In this engagement his right arm was broken by a shell, and his side injured.





In 1879 he was elected United States Senator from Missouri to fill an unexpired term. An interesting item to note in this connection is that Major J. W. Donnelley, now chief of the appointment section in the General Land Office, was tendered the position of private secretary to the Senator, but his other official duties did not permit of its acceptance.

During the last few years of his life he frequently lectured, and was everywhere received with marks of esteem and appreciation. His death occurred June 1, 1879, at Ottumwa, Iowa.

On December 6, 1893, the unveiling of the Shields statue, presented by the State of Illinois, took place in Statuary Hall in the Capitol.

#### BRINE DEPOSITS OF POTASH.

The application of the California Trona Company for a placer patent on the Searles Lake potash deposit was the subject of an exceedingly interesting and extended hearing that recently occurred in the Secretary's office, in which the validity of the application, as well as the applicability of the placer mining law to the peculiar deposit in question, was under discussion.

The importance of this case justifies a somewhat full statement as to the subject matter.

The residual deposits of an ancient lake belonging to an early geologic period and now known as Searles Lake, in Inyo and San Bernardino Counties, California, contains the only extensive potash deposit known to exist in the United States.

The deposit, as it now occurs, occupies the lower or central part of the former lake bed embracing some 6,000 or 7,000 acres, with a saline body of complex structure, from 60 to 80 feet in depth, which permits a free flow of saturate brine, composed of muriate of potash, soda ash, sodium sulphate, common salt and borax, mixed with water and other compounds not regarded as commercially valuable. Outside of and surrounding this crystalline body are two zones, one a mud flat more or less saturated with the minerals described, and, with the crystalline body subject to overflow in the wet season, and surrounding this a beach a mile or more in width, containing so-called trona reefs, heretofore exploited for the borax contained therein.

The water-shed immediately tributary to Searles Lake is approximately 600 square miles in area. Inflowing drainage waters which cover the central crystal body and sometimes also the surface of the mud belt of Searles Lake during occasional rain storms occurring in the rainy season, in the fall and spring of the year, form a brine saturated principally with the common salt found on the surface, which remains separate





and distinct from the heavier brine beneath. This surface brine soon evaporates leaving the common salt as the exposed or upper crust of the crystal body.

Questions involving the quantity and extent of the inflowing waters, the amount of additional mineral brought down in solution, and the extent to which the crystals would be dissolved or the brine weakened by inflowing waters if the original brine were constantly pumped out are problematical and have not been determined. It is known, however, that the main volume of brine is so completely saturated with the salts of the same character as those making up the entire body that it can dissolve nothing more of the minerals carried in solution.

It is estimated that a daily removal of 2,000,000 gallons of the brine would draw from the lake approximately one-tenth of an inch per day. The natural evaporation which is held in check at a practically constant level by the inflowing waters from the drainage basin is much larger, varying from one-quarter to one-half inch per day.

The entire area as above described is held at the present time under placer locations, for whose benefit applications for patent are now pending before the department, but against which proceedings have been directed by the department charging invalidity of said claims, and the inapplicability of the placer mining law to a deposit of this character.

The deposit is very large and valuable, estimated at many millions of dollars, and is said to be the only potash body of substantial proportions known at present in the United States. The deposit being in the nature of a brine and susceptible of extraction by pumping process, it is very evident that a single individual or corporation if given a patent or lease, and permitted to select, without restriction, the location thereof, could, by placing the claim in the lower or central part of the lake, monopolize, control and extract the entire deposit of saturate brine; the importance, therefore, of the final decision that will be reached in this case can well be understood.

#### FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

From Mt. Andrew Landing, Kasaan Bay, Alaska.-

The verses on page 29 of the September Bulletin, entitled "Quoth the Agent Nevermore", while very clever, are nevertheless amusing to the Agent in Alaska who must reach his work through the medium of ante-diluvian steamers, smelly and unsafe, or small gas boats wherein "crawling cooped we live and die" (or nearly die generally).





To the Agent in Alaska it is inconceivable that anyone could make a complaint against a railroad, no matter what the road-bed or how square-wheeled the rolling stock, or, for that matter, against any land conveyance be it nothing more than a mangy burro with cross-tree pack saddle.

An Agent in the States "little knows his blessedness" - - - and probably will not unless assigned to Alaska! And its a great Territory at that, potentially rich in natural resources and on the eve of a sane and healthy development.

But, as I started out to say, give me the jerky trains whereon you retain your feed and interior decorations as against the pitching, rolling storm-tossed boats whereon life is as "stale, flat and cheerless as a Republican nomination in Texas."

From Somewhere in France.-

Word has been received from two of our Honor Roll men, R. H. Dalton and W. A. Crawford. Both enjoyed thoroughly a three days' visit in Paris. Just where they are now we do not know, but it is a safe bet that on their return, it will take at least four stenographers, qualified as court reporters to take down one-half the stories told by "Dick" and "Buck" on the first day of their arrival.

#### ADMISSION OF ATTORNEYS TO PRACTICE BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT.

Under date of September 27, 1917, the Department issued new regulations governing the recognition of agents, attorneys, and other persons to represent claimants before the Department of the Interior and its various bureaus.

The new regulations follow the general lines of those heretofore existing, but define with greater particularity causes that will be held sufficient to justify the disbarment of attorneys from practice before the Department, with an outline of the procedure that will be followed where charges against attorneys are under investigation.

#### PUBLIC LAND SEEKERS.

The active interest at present existing among our people as to the public lands remaining for disposition is fairly well indicated by the number of requests that are made for circular information bearing on the general subject. During the fiscal year of 1917 the General Land Office distributed 137,650 copies of "Suggestions to Homesteaders" and in the same time 170,250 copies of "Vacant Public Lands."





## LAND DECISIONS.

Volume 45 of the decisions of the Department of the Interior in cases relating to public lands, from March 1, 1916, to January 31, 1917, has been delivered by the Government Printing Office, and will be promptly distributed throughout the land service.

This volume includes many very important decisions, covering new questions that have arisen under recent legislation, and should be carefully examined by all members of the service. A study of the "land decisions" is an absolute necessity to uniformity and regularity in the administration of the public land laws.

This publication (together with volumes 1 to 45 and digest covering volumes 1 to 40 inclusive) is held for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Office of Public Printer, Washington, D. C.

## COAL LAND REGULATIONS.

A new coal land circular bearing date July 7, 1917, is now ready for distribution, embracing all new legislation, current decisions and instructions, relative to the sale and entry of coal lands, exclusive of Alaska; also legislation and instructions pertaining to non-mineral entries of coal lands with a reservation of the coal to the United States, and the sale of the reserved deposits. The new instructions will be known as "Circular No. 557."

## EXCLUSIONS FROM NATIONAL FORESTS.

The President on October 9th signed a proclamation excluding certain areas from the Cache National Forest in southeastern Idaho and northeastern Utah, withdrawing portions of the excluded area in Idaho, 2,869 acres in aid of pending legislation to grant the lands to the City of Pocatello for the protection of its water supply and for park purposes, and 318 acres for townsite purposes, and restoring the public lands subject to disposition in the remaining excluded areas to homestead entry in advance of other forms of disposition. Such lands, amounting to about 11,630 acres, will become subject to entry only under the homestead laws requiring residence at and after 9 o'clock a. m. December 5, and to settlement and other applicable forms of disposition on and after December 12, 1917.

Small areas were also excluded during the month of October from the Manti National Forest in Utah and Humboldt National Forest in Nevada, and the public lands therein restored to homestead entry in advance of other forms of disposition.





WAR WORK COMMITTEE OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

N O T I C E.

The Interior Department War Work Committee reports the following number of finished articles made by the Interior Department Association since September 8:

September 14, 1 box containing  
the following sent to the  
Neuilly Hospital:

36 sheets  
60 pillow cases  
12 bath towels  
12 face towels  
6 day shirts  
42 suits of pajamas  
6 suits of underwear  
1 gift package containing  
1 sweater  
1 helmet  
1 muffler  
1 pair socks  
1 pair wristlets  
6 handkerchiefs  
1 cake soap  
1 tooth brush  
1 tooth powder  
1 shaving soap  
1 odd sweater

Surgical dressings

96 compresses, 9 x 9  
72 compresses, 4 x 4  
72 wipes, 4 x 4  
24 bandages, muslin, 6-4 in.  
24 bandages, triangular  
36 bandages, head  
50 hospital books

1 box sent to the Red Cross, which  
contained the following:

324 pillow cases  
72 sheets  
18 suits pajamas

September 25, for the Neuilly  
Hospital:

24 sheets  
12 pillow cases  
12 face towels  
12 bath towels  
24 suits pajamas  
12 suits underwear  
6 day shirts  
3 gift packages, each containing:  
1 sweater  
1 helmet  
1 pair socks  
1 scarf  
6 handkerchiefs  
2 wash cloths  
1 shaving soap  
1 dental paste  
1 soap  
1 tooth brush

Surgical dressings

September 25, given to five of our own men who are going abroad,  
the following:

5 sweaters  
5 helmets  
10 pair socks

MRS. FRANKLIN K. LANE.

September 27, 1917.





FOR THE NEUILLY HOSPITAL.

The Surgical Dressings Committee of the Department of the Interior has sent the following articles to France in the boxes consigned to the Neuilly Hospital:

Surgical dressings sent September 14:

96 Compresses, 9 x 9,	24 Bandages (muslin), 6-4 in.
72 Compresses, 4 x 4,	24 Bandages, triangles
72 Wipes, 4 x 4,	36 Bandages, head,
	50 Hospital Books.

Surgical dressings sent September 25:

72 Compresses, 9 x 9,	6 Muslin Rolls,
48 Compresses, 4 x 4,	8 Triangular Bandages,
96 Wipes, 4 x 4,	4 Abdominal Bandages,
120 Wipes, 2 x 2,	4 "T" "
5 Fracture Pillows,	2 Head "
6 Crinoline Rolls,	6 Comfort Bags,
8 Flannel Rolls	24 Puzzle Pictures.

Also to the Base Hospital, Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va., through the kindness of Mrs. Holderby, the following jams and jellies have been sent:

2 Dozen	currant jelly,
1 "	pints damson preserves,
1 "	" canned peaches.

In each box that is going to the Neuilly Hospital we are putting from 50 to 100 booklets that have been made by the ladies in the Pension Office. Each booklet contains an interesting article or story and some artistic pictures, and are so light that a very weak hand could hold them. The pictures are often really beautiful, and they can not fail to give interest and help pass away the long weary hours in the hospital.

MRS. FRANKLIN K. LANE.

October 6, 1917.





## HONOR ROLL.

The following members of the General Land Office are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Jacob Berman,      | 1st Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.                                      |
| 2. W. S. Binley,      | 2d Lieut., National Army.   |
| 3. Alvin Colburn,     | Captain, National Army.   |
| 4. F. J. Connolly,    | 1st Lieut., Aviation Corps.   |
| 5. W. A. Crawford,    | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 6. R. H. Dalton,      | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 7. H. K. Dinan,       | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.   |
| 8. James G. Hamilton, | Clerk in Quartermaster's Corps.   |
| 9. A. D. Hathaway,    | Captain, D. C. National Guard.  |
| 10. F. E. Hedges,     | Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.   |
| 11. Lewis E. Hoffman, | Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.   |
| 12. H. L. Kays,       | 2d Lieut., D. C. National Guard.  |
| 13. A. C. Lakenan,    | Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.   |
| 14. C. C. Mullady,    | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.   |
| 15. Elmer Pendell,    | 2d Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.                                       |
| 16. W. H. Ritenour,   | Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.<br>Accidentally killed in line of duty. |
| 17. W. M. Sullivan,   | 2d Lieut., Sixth Regiment Infantry,<br>U. S. Army.                        |





## SECOND LIBERTY LOAN.

The whirlwind campaign in the Interior Department on behalf of the Second Liberty Loan was organized and prosecuted in a manner commensurate with the magnitude of the cause. The statement given below from the Secretary of the Interior shows the figures up to date.

October 30, 1917.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT:

Statement of subscriptions to the Second Liberty Loan by the  
Employees of the Department of the Interior.

BUREAU	No. Wash. Emp.	No. Subscrib- ers.	Percent of Sub- scribers.	Total Wash.	Total Field.	Total Field and Washington.
Secretary's	428	385	89.9	\$40,950	\$123,650*	\$164,600
Land	503	395	78.5	46,200	150,000	196,200
Indian	345	323	93.6	69,000	322,300	391,300
Pension	997	797	79.9	128,700	14,650	143,350
Patent	937	778	83.0	127,700	-----	127,700
Education	90	70	77.7	15,100	3,200	18,300
Survey	544	478	87.8	132,500	39,350	171,850
Reclamation	93	89	95.6	20,250	145,000	165,250
Mines	424	353	83.2	149,300	164,350	313,650
Parks	17	17	100.0	11,500	15,000	26,500
St. Elizabeth's	154	130	84.4	33,500	-----	33,500
Howard University	79	35	44.3	8,900	-----	8,900
Freedmen's	30	25	83.3	4,900	-----	4,900
Total,	4,641	3,875	83.2	\$788,500	\$977,500	\$1,766,000.

+ Alaskan Engineering Commission.

H. A. MEYER,

Chairman, Liberty Loan Committee  
for the Department of the In-  
terior.

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It is extremely gratifying that over 83 per cent of all the men and women in this Department at Washington have made a loan to the Government, and that nearly one million dollars was contributed by those in our various field services throughout all the country from Alaska to Florida.

FRANKLIN K. LANE.





During the month of October the Commissioner visited the outposts of the public land service in Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, California and Utah. At last accounts he was on his way back to headquarters.

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The resignation of Mr. H. L. Underwood of our office, noted in the last Bulletin, is a distinct loss to the Land Service; but to the same extent a clear gain to the Department of Justice where he will be engaged on legal work pertaining to the public lands.

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Incidentally the stock-raising homestead act has cost the General Land Office the services of a good man, Mr. George W. Holland, who has gone to the Geological Survey to engage in designating lands subject to entry under that act.

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Mr. Winfred Pray, former U. S. Surveyor for the district of Nevada, and at present a U. S. Mineral Surveyor, has received an appointment as captain in the engineer's section. The examination taken by Captain Pray in San Francisco, for the appointment, was passed by only four other men. Only one other man in Nevada has been honored with a similar commission.

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Theodore Cronyn, U. S. Transitman, has resigned from the Service, and has enlisted with the 23rd Regiment of Engineers, U. S. Army. He is now stationed at Annapolis Junction, Maryland.

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Captain Henry Gerharz is now at Fort Leavenworth, at training camp. In a recent letter he stated that they were just completing their Infantry drill, and would be ready to take up other work immediately.

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Mr. Donald Sawhill is now in the National Army, his address being - Barracks 27, Company L, 362nd Regiment Infantry, Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Washington.

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The Bulletin is in receipt of the following card:

Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Rainbolt announce the marriage of their niece, Miss Lucy Barham to Mr. Frank Minitree Johnson on Wednesday, the seventeenth of October, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, Denver, Colorado.

This is our Supervisor of Surveys, to whom we extend our most sincere congratulations and good wishes.

TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:-

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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Vol. 1.

December 1, 1917.

No. 10.

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### The Annual Report, 1917.

The Commissioner's annual report to the Secretary of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, will be released to the press next week and the usual official copies will be mailed to all officers of our service as soon thereafter as available.

Official reports are hardly to be compared with the war news for interesting reading, and even if something good should perchance find its way into the pages of such a report it is seldom seen, for the reason that the very label on the title page results in the consignment of the volume to the dusty shelf in the back room. We try, however, to make the annual report a concise and readable story of the progress of the public land business,- administrative, legislative and judicial,- during the current year, to the end that in the reports from year to year the text will furnish a connected and reliable history of public land affairs and the tables will provide reliable statistics for reference. Not the least difficulty in preparing the annual report is to make it sufficiently brief, as the result of which it is for the most part a bare statement of essential facts.

Interesting or otherwise, those in our service should carefully examine the annual report as part of their business to get a comprehensive idea of what is going on in the government bureau of which they are a part.

Another thing, there is much in the annual report that the public should know more about. A majority of the people have little conception of the magnitude or importance of the business we transact or the





problems we solve. The annual report will furnish the basic facts and figures for many an interesting newspaper sketch or item of benefit to the public if handled understandingly. But the average newspaperman does not have the time to study out the significance of these matters with which we are familiar, yet the newspapers are generally glad to use such material if properly prepared for them.

Now, we have more than one hundred and twenty branch offices and several hundred employees in the public-land States where the people are particularly interested in what we are doing; in every one of these offices there is some one and frequently several who are perfectly competent to prepare interesting and instructive articles or items for the local papers. Timely articles or data in the Bulletin can be handled the same way. Frequently a bit of local color or application can be made that will add to the interest. While such articles should be "newsy" care should be exercised to make them conservative and reliable. When the articles are good they will be quoted widely in other papers. The first thing we know the newspapers will be calling on us for the "good stuff" all dished up ready to serve. Thus we will be able to supply the public some valuable information; incidentally, the public will learn that we belong to a live institution. Suppose we all try this out in connection with this annual report and see what we can accomplish. Watch for the confidential advance sheets for release on the thirteenth so as to have something to let loose on that date. Send the clippings to the Bulletin; we may want to quote some of them.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

### Appointments.

#### General Land Office.-

Christopher C. Burston, of Washington, clerk at \$1000; Clarence W. Coughlin, of Maine; Andrew J. Szabo, of Illinois; Oscar H. Ragland, of North Carolina; George C. Dietz, of Colorado; Charles H. Donley, of Michigan; Samuel M. Young, Jr., of North Carolina; Alexander H. Gibert, Jr., of South Carolina; W. Clifford McDaniel, of Tennessee, copyists at \$900: John I. Boone, of Oklahoma, and Zebulon C. Camp, of North Carolina, copyists at \$900 (from minor clerk at same salary). Searcy Bartley, of Alabama, and Rosco Frederick, of Alabama, skilled laborers at \$660; Robert H. Britten, of Massachusetts, and Sam Weaver, of Alabama, laborers (Classified) at \$660. Alfred M. Layton, and Noble A. Upperman, of the District of Columbia, messenger boys at \$480 per annum.

#### Local Offices.-

Augustus J. Schroer appointed Receiver at Minot, North Dakota.

Miss Anna Frost, of South Dakota, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office at Bismarck, North Dakota.

Max O. Guthlin, stenographer and typewriter at \$1020, land office Douglas, Wyoming.

Edwin R. Fisk, of Utah, clerk-draftsman at \$1200, Office Surveyor General of Arizona.

Byron L. Fitch, of Colorado, clerk-draftsman at \$1800, Office Surveyor General of Alaska.

James C. Sauls, of the District of Columbia, copyist-topographic-draftsman at \$1200, Office Surveyor General of Arizona.

Miss Minnie M. Morton, of Washington, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Glasgow, Montana.

Miss Caroline S. Waters, of Washington, clerk at \$900, land office Buffalo, Wyoming.





Miss Minnie Reinhardt, of Colorado, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Roswell, New Mexico.

Miss Capitola G. Allison, of Washington, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Miss Anna C. Kane, of California, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Carson City, Nevada.

Miss Nellie A. Taft, of Washington, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office Walla Walla, Washington.

Peter Monaghan, Jr., of Colorado, clerk at \$900, land office Denver, Colorado.

Miss Clara A. Hagen, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, land office at Havre, Montana.

Miss Olive Selin, of Montana, clerk at \$900, land office Sundance, Wyoming.

#### Transfers.

##### General Land Office.-

Charles A. Obenchain, of Illinois, from law examiner at \$2000, to Expert Accountant at \$250 per month in the Treasury Department (for duty in France).

James P. Briggs, of Georgia, from clerk at \$1800 to Law Clerk at \$2000 in the Treasury Department.

Charles T. M. Cutcheon, of Michigan, from clerk at \$1800, to same at \$150 per month in the Treasury Department (for duty in France).

Frederick T. Livings, of Indiana, from clerk at \$1800, to same at \$150 per month in the Treasury Department (for duty in France).

William L. Stephens, of Alabama, from law examiner at \$1600, to clerk at \$1600 in the Treasury Department.

Fred L. Van Dolsen, of Indiana, from clerk at \$1200 to same at \$100 per month in the Treasury Department (for duty in France).





Philip F. Kleinhaus, of Pennsylvania, from clerk at \$1200 to same at \$3.04 per diem in the Navy Department.

John D. K. Smoot, of Virginia, to clerk at \$1000, from copyist at \$900 in the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Richard M. Daly, of Arkansas, to clerk at \$1800, from clerk at \$1400 in the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Samuel N. Hall, of the District of Columbia, to laborer at \$660 from same in the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Miss Lura E. Headle, of Colorado, from land law clerk at \$1500 in the land office at Lamar, Colorado, to clerk at \$1400 in the General Land Office.

Howard F. Morgan, of Colorado, from clerk at \$1600, to law examiner at same salary.

Miss Eunice W. Wright, of Mississippi, from clerk at \$1600 to law examiner at same salary.

James W. Byler, of Missouri, from Chief of Division at \$2000, to law examiner at same salary.

#### Field Service.-

Charles Moriarity, of California, from stenographer and typewriter at \$1200 in the Department of Labor, to same position in Office of Chief of Field Division, Denver, Colorado.

Mrs. Anna H. Blom, of Montana, from the Geological Survey to stenographer and typewriter at \$900 per annum in the Helena field division.

Miss Effie M. Brown, of Colorado, from stenographer and typewriter at \$1200, in Office of Chief of Field Division at Denver, Colorado, to same in the Department of Labor.

#### Local Offices.-

Harry S. Palmer, of Nevada, from clerk-draftsman at \$1720, in Office of Surveyor General of Nevada, to same in Office of Surveyor General of Arizona.





Miss Irma E. French, of Colorado, from stenographer and typewriter at \$1080 in Office of Surveyor General of New Mexico to Financial Clerk at same salary in Office of Surveyor General of Utah.

Ralph E. Beatty, of Iowa, from Chief Clerk at \$1500 in land office at Waterville, Washington, to land law clerk at \$1500 in land office Sterling, Colorado.

Roger D. Thomas, of Iowa, from stenographer and typewriter at \$1140 in Lemmon, South Dakota land office, to same at \$1260 in land office Sundance, Wyoming.

#### Reinstatements.

##### General Land Office.-

Jacob Berman, of Connecticut, as clerk at \$1600 per annum.

Archie M. Reed, of Alabama, as skilled laborer at \$660 per annum.

##### Local Office.-

Joseph W. Hall, of Nevada, as chief clerk at \$2000 in Office of Surveyor General of Nevada.

#### Promotions.

##### General Land Office.-

Charles B. Strong, of Arkansas, to Chief of Division at \$2000.

Willard S. Haynie, of Arkansas; Miss Fanny S. Herbert, of Oregon; and Elmer I. Baldwin, of Minnesota, to clerks at \$1800.

Thomas H. Herndon, of Alabama; and George B. Chew, of Texas, to clerks at \$1600.

Miss Mary C. Torrey, of Michigan, to clerk at \$1400.

Hugh A. Voris, of Kentucky; Mrs. Goldie G. Miller, of New York; Alfred C. England, of Virginia; Harrison W. Happy, of Illinois; and Miss Mary L. Kessler, of Indiana, to clerks at \$1200.





Miss Sallie Rowe, of Louisiana; Mrs. Emuella R. Burson, of Iowa; Miss Minnie V. Devoney, of Pennsylvania; Miss Gunhild S. A. Helander, of Illinois; Miss Libbie E. Guyton, of Tennessee; and John W. Ringwald, of Indiana, to clerks at \$1000.

William E. Lum, of Mississippi; and Clyde G. Phelps, of Missouri, to copyists at \$900.

Herman O. Huebner, of the District of Columbia, to assistant messenger at \$720.

Sylvester H. Weeder, of Michigan, to clerk at \$1800.

Adam C. Yingst, of Pennsylvania, to clerk at \$1600.

William Doroff, of Maryland; and Frederick G. Tansill, of Texas, to clerks at \$1400.

Miss Martha J. Robinson, of Missouri; and Ollie H. Burriss, of Ohio; to clerks at \$1200.

Henry M. Smith, of Missouri, to copyist at \$720.

#### Local Offices.-

Doran W. Lummis, of Wyoming, to clerk-draftsman at \$1400, in Office Surveyor General Wyoming.

Robert G. Green, of California, to draftsman at \$5 per diem in Office Surveyor General California.

Vane C. Bosworth, of Illinois, to land law clerk at \$1020 in land office Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Williamson S. Clark, of Washington, to chief draftsman at \$1560 in Office Surveyor General of Washington.

Nels V. Swenson, of Washington, to stenographer and typewriter at \$1080 in Douglas, Wyoming land office.

Henry C. Hamill, of Colorado, to chief draftsman at \$1800 in Office Surveyor General, New Mexico.





Eugene F. Wittman, of New Mexico, to Chief Clerk at \$2000 in Office Surveyor General New Mexico.

Max O. Guthlin, of Maryland, to stenographer and typewriter at \$1200 in land office Douglas, Wyoming.

Oliver C. King, of New Mexico, to stenographer and typewriter at \$1020 in Office Chief Field Division Santa Fe, New Mexico.

#### Resignations.

##### General Land Office.-

Charles N. Willard, of Kansas, clerk at \$1200.

Jacob Kraft, of the District of Columbia, messenger boy at \$600.

Nelson J. Moskowitz, of New York, copyist at \$900.

##### Local Offices.-

Miss Anna Frost, of South Dakota, stenographer and typewriter \$900, land office Bismarck, South Dakota.

Miss Elsie E. Hamilton, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, land office Miles City, Montana.

Clifford H. Kain, of Oregon, clerk-draftsman at \$1380, Surveyor General of Washington.

Miss Agnes E. Kerr, of Idaho, typewriter at \$1020, Office of Surveyor General of Idaho.

##### Field Service.-

William S. Towner, Special Agent at \$1440.

#### Separations.

Arthur L. Guess, skilled laborer at \$660, because of having been drafted for service in the Army.

George Stowell, of Oregon, mineral clerk at \$5 per diem, Office Surveyor General Alaska, because of ill health.

Kent Allen, stenographer and typewriter at \$1140, in land office Los Angeles, California, because of having been drafted for service in the Army.





## SURVEY NOTES.

The field season in the northern districts is rapidly drawing to a close. Most of the surveying parties have disbanded and the remaining few are shaping their work preparatory to a suspension of operations for the year. The surveyors selected for southern assignment are either already in the field in the South or shortly will be, where they will remain until the northern season opens next spring.

Considering the unusual and varied conditions confronting all field services this year the amount of surveys accomplished by this service and their cost is satisfactory, and in certain localities very gratifying. Many of our engineers, surveyors, transitmen and field assistants have entered the military branch of the government. Their places have been filled with difficulty and in some instances not at all. Labor has been scarce, and equipment and animals at times were not to be had at any price. Other influences have made themselves felt. Surveys in Alaska have been retarded to some extent and made more difficult by excessive rains and the resulting floods, which have been general over the Territory this year. Extensive forest fires in western Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon have been a source of much annoyance and in some instances have caused delays to the field parties, and yet we have been enabled to reach and consummate without material loss of time all special and urgent surveys which have come before us, and to keep the great public land survey steadily and rapidly moving over the areas authorized for survey. On the whole, the 1917 field season with all its unique problems, its unlooked for situations and its many apparently insuperable obstacles to successful endeavor passes into history with a record of accomplishment for which no apology need be made.

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Otis Ross, U. S. Surveyor, and A. J. Bradford, U. S. Transitman, of District No. 9, have been given commissions in the military branch of the government, Mr. Ross as Second Lieutenant in the quartermasters department and Mr. Bradford as Second Lieutenant in the regular army. As both of these officers successfully negotiated the Susitna swamps in Alaska last season we anticipate that the first line trenches in France will hold no terrors for them.

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The subdivisional surveys under Group No. 7, Alaska, along the north shore of Kachemak Bay were initiated by computation from the triangulation net of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, referred to the Seward Base and Meridian and extended over a portion of Ts. 5 and 6 S., Rs. 11, 12 and 13 W., to embrace the more thickly settled areas in the vicinity of Homer.





Arrangements have been made for wintering the Land Office horses in southwestern Alaska at Cottonwood on Knik Arm, rather than shipping them, as has been done heretofore, to the State of Washington for pasturage during the winter months and returning them to the Cook Inlet country in the spring. This arrangement will be feasible this year and will prove much more economical and satisfactory in every way.

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Alton O. Stinson, U. S. Surveyor, of District No. 1, and J. P. Davis, U. S. Surveyor, of District No. 7, have been transferred to District No. 5, for field work in Arizona.

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The Nebraska State University Soil Survey is making extensive use of the plats and returns of resurveys of areas in the western part of the State in its work of compiling its list of agricultural lands available for new settlers.

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S. W. Goodale, Detailed Law Examiner, who during the latter part of October and early November made a trip of inspection to various points in the Rocky Mountain region, has returned to San Francisco.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, has been engaged in organizing the field parties of the northern surveyors recently transferred to Arizona and southern California.

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It has been proposed, whenever feasible and desirable, to transfer from the Field Surveying Service surveyors qualified as draftsmen to such offices of Surveyors General as may require their services during the indoor season. It is believed that this practice will not only successfully meet the shortage of land office draftsmen and operate to the advantage of the offices of Surveyors General, but will tend to further promote efficiency through closer contact of the field and office.

#### COMPENSATION.

While the five and ten percentum  
Helps check the wild momentum  
Of the higher cost of living when at home,  
It makes but small impression  
On the "open palm" profession  
Which bestrews the paths of pleasure when you roam.





There's the waiter and the porter  
Who think you "hadn't orter  
Forget that they must live as well as youse".  
They must have their usual tip  
Plus the usual added bit,  
To meet the added cost of baby's shoes.

So we might as well be cheerful  
And though the added cost is fearful  
There is little chance that we will finally lose.  
For if the added ten percentum  
Is not used to pay our rentum  
It may buy somebody's kid a pair of shoes.

The perpetrator of the above has been apprehended, tried  
and convicted. He will be shot at sunrise.

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Members of the Nenana coal field survey in Alaska in 1915, will  
be interested to learn that the subdivisinal surveys under Group No. 4,  
initiated in the vicinity of Nenana, have been extended up the river of  
that name and connection made with the Nenana coal field group. This  
work has been executed by Woodbury Abbey, U. S. Surveyor, who will  
further extend the rectangular net over agricultural lands under the  
Fairbanks Base and Meridian next year. Mr. Abbey will remain in  
Nenana and prepare his notes there this winter in order that he may  
be on the ground much earlier than would be possible should he return  
to Juneau and wait for opening of navigation on the Yukon.

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Thomas B. Matthews, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 5, has been  
appointed 1st Lieutenant in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps. He  
has not yet been assigned to duty by the War Department.

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Basil C. Perkins, U. S. Transitman, District No. 4, and  
Theodore Cronyn, U. S. Transitman, District No. 1, have enlisted in  
the 23rd Engineers, Camp Meade, Maryland.

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Donald Sawhill, U. S. Transitman, District No. 1, is a corporal  
in Company L, 362 Reg. Infantry, Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Washington.

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Carl E. Johnson, Draftsman, District No. 3, has passed the  
preliminary examination for the artillery branch of the Army, and





reported for duty November 25, 1917.

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S. Frank Walters, U. S. Transitman, has been called for the last increment, first contingent of the National Army.

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Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, returned to Denver from his trip to the southwest early in November.

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BE PATIENT.

He whose contribution to the work of the world includes an attempt to hustle a flock of camp laden Rocky Mountain canaries over a strange and rocky trail, or whose life has been saddened by effort at explanation to the Accounts Division of what constitutes an exigency which will not admit of the delay incident to advertising, can better understand and appreciate the dire consequences of impatience as set forth in those lines from Kipling's "Naulahka":

"Now it is not good for the Christian's health to  
hustle the Aryan brown;  
For the Christian riles and the Aryan smiles and he  
weareth the Christian down;  
And the end of the fight is a tombstone white, with  
the name of the late deceased;  
And the epitaph drear, 'A fool lies here, who tried  
to hustle the East.'"

Burros and Accounts Divisions by nature move slowly and cautiously but generally in the right direction. Their burdens are heavy and their paths are not always smooth. We are inclined to be impatient with them at times and perhaps we are right from our point of view, but from their point of view, which necessarily considers the philosophy of the ultimate result, and from the further fact that they have the last guess, the chances are that they are right. Be patient.

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Steps are being taken to secure the survey and subdivision of that portion of the Hualapai Indian Reservation, Arizona, lying within the granted limits of the Santa Fe Pacific Railroad. It is possible the work may be undertaken in the early spring.

Another project is on foot for the completion of the surveys





of lands along this railroad within the original grant to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. These two projects will involve the expenditure of about \$135,000.

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The Reclamation Service has called upon this office for the survey of lands incident to the auxiliary reclamation project in connection with the Yuma Irrigation Scheme in Southern Arizona, adjacent to the international boundary line.

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The survey of the Hot Springs townsite in New Mexico has been authorized by the Secretary of the Interior. A unique feature of this work is the proposed reservation of these springs, about 30 in number, which contain highly curative properties, for the use of the general public. Already a settlement has sprung up around the springs, which is reported as containing about 400 inhabitants and about 100 buildings, including bath houses and hotels, for the accommodation of health seekers.

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The survey of the townsite of Humboldt, Arizona, in T. 13 N., R. 1 E., has been authorized, and instructions to the Surveyor issued under Group 16.

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Supervisor Kidder is in Shreveport, Louisiana, in connection with the oil suits brought by the Government for the use of lands in the Ferry Lake oil district in northwestern Louisiana. He also intends to inspect the survey operations now in progress under Surveyor Baldwin in Oklahoma, segregating the undisposed of tracts along Red River.

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The survey of townsites D'Aste and the first addition to Wolf Point townsite, Montana, were executed, platted, and accepted in record time. The openings were scheduled for the 15th and 20th of November, respectively.

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The abandoned military reservation on Raritan Bay, New Jersey, has been surveyed by Surveyor Richards into several large tracts suitable for resubdivision by prospective bidders. The appraisalment of the land has also been completed.

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Mr. Jacob Berman, office examiner of surveys, has returned to





the office after three months training at Fort Myer. He is on the active list as First Lieutenant, Engineer Reserve Corps.

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The plats of public land surveys recently accepted by this office are not being filed in the local land offices as promptly as in the past for the reason that the photolithographic branch of the Geological Survey where the plats are reproduced for filing has been forced to subordinate this work to the demands of the War Department.

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The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for men only, for the position of United States Surveyor and Transitman, in the General Land Office Service, upon January 9 and 10, 1918. The age limit is between 20 and 55. Further details as to the examination will be supplied upon application to the Commission.





## FIELD SERVICE.

Under this administration, the policy has been adopted of transferring a number of the special agents from the northern and northwestern divisions, where little work could be accomplished in the wintertime on account of climatic conditions, to the southern and southwestern field divisions. Under this plan, two mineral examiners and nine special agents have been directed to report to Chief of Field Division at Santa Fe, New Mexico, whose division comprises the States of Arizona and New Mexico, for duty not later than January 1, 1918.

In the Santa Fe Division there were pending on the 31st day of October 3,000 cases of all classes, namely desert land proofs, homestead proofs, application for relief in connection with desert land entries, application for extension of time in desert land entries, desert land applications, State and railroad selections, irrigation projects, stock drives, unlawful inclosures, etc. The selections embrace large areas, and there are a large number of state selections pending investigation to determine the mineral or non-mineral character thereof.

Two timber cruisers have been transferred to the Jackson, Mississippi, Field Division where there are pending a large number of timber trespass cases.

### Second Liberty Loan.

During the last Liberty Loan drive Secretary Lane and various oil operators entered into agreements for the investment in Liberty Bonds of moneys deposited in escrow in national banks in Wyoming, Colorado and California, pursuant to contracts entered into with the operators, under the act of August 25, 1914, whereby a certain proportion of the proceeds arising from sales of oil produced from the withdrawn oil lands in the Wyoming and California fields were impounded pending determination of the title to the lands involved. As a result of such negotiations the escrow depositaries entered subscriptions to the amount of \$744,000. In connection with this work mention should be made of Special Agent J. H. Favorite of the San Francisco field division and his activity in securing the consent of the various operators in the oil field for this investment.





## Stock Driveways.

During the month of November, the Secretary created stock driveway reservations in New Mexico and Colorado and temporarily withdrew certain areas in Idaho for stock driveway purposes under section ten of the act of December 29, 1916 (39 Stat., 862), as follows:

On November 12 he reserved stock driveways aggregating 34,730 acres in the southeastern part of New Mexico in Eddy and Lea counties, and on November 17 driveways aggregating 40,900 acres in western Colorado in connection with the ranges on the Arapaho, Gunnison, Routt, San Juan and Sopsris National Forests. By order of November 1st certain tracts, amounting to 4,823 acres, in southern Idaho were temporarily withdrawn pending further investigation to determine the necessity and advisability of reserving the lands for stock driveway purposes.

The following special agents have been assigned to stock driveway investigations in the various field divisions in the range states:

Cheyenne Field Division - W. J. Lewis

Denver Field Division - C. F. Leuenberger,  
C. L. Duer, and J. McG. Williamson.

Helena Field Division - W. H. Wasner

Salt Lake City Field Division - T. N. Espe  
and Julius Hornbein.

San Francisco Field Division - Capt. G. E. Hair  
and A. A. Wilhelm

Santa Fe Field Division - D. O. Mulhern,  
J. A. Ramsey and E. N. Quinn

## OVER THE COUNTER.

Could the counters of the various district land offices become articulate what tales they could tell! As to the clerks working over these counters, they could tell some too; if they had time.

When the doors open at nine frequently comes in the hurried individual - he is in a rush - must be waited on at once - others give way to him, a little more speed





is put on - he is attended to. Does he rush out? He does not. He lingers half a day.

Then comes the nervous one, he is full of trouble, case needs immediate and careful attention. As one starts looking up the case, first one and then another of his agitated statements fall through. Nothing is the matter with his entry. Then comes the last admission; "He thought maybe he was going to be contested." "Yes, he was on his land and had been, but he just got to worrying."

About this time comes the young lady asking for the laws for school teachers. The impression is current that school teachers and preachers do not have to comply with the laws the same as the more ordinary run of mortals.

There are all kinds of ladies, mostly very staid and calm. The reason is not far to seek, they have implicit faith that nothing can happen to a "widow woman," once she puts her faith in Uncle Sam.

One lady stands out in my recollection as "different." She came in all dolled up; was one of my cases, so in time was turned over to me. She was required to furnish a corroborated affidavit. This would involve some expenditure of time and money on her part, and here she was, sure that if the full radiance of her charms were turned on a mere man, the requirement would be waived. Then to be turned over to a woman - it was annoying. I told her carefully as to the reasons which made this affidavit absolutely necessary, appeals would not help, it must be done, and within thirty days. Her eyes rolled around the office, and she asked to talk to one of the men. I did not call the officials, one of them had slipped her to me. They were inclined to press the soft pedal anyway. We had a Scot with us, dour as they make them, and a woman-hater, especially of the clinging vine type, "parasites" he called them. I went over to him and whispered "Mac, a lady wants you at the counter, I think she wants to make a hit with you." He snorted and would not go. "You must go," I said. "She has asked for you, and she will get you if you don't watch out, too." He went, and as she started to talk, under his glassy stare she slowly congealed. When he finally turned and left without having spoken a word, she took her complexion and brave finery away. In due course she sent in the affidavit, by mail.

About this time may come in the prospective settler from Pittsburg - or some other seaport. He has heard





of the West, its opportunities and openings. He comes, leans on the counter, surveys the room about as the Israelites looked towards the promised land. Then he says "I am an American citizen. I have a right to 160 acres of land. I have come to get it. Where is it?" In vain all circulars on the subject are piled on him. In vain he is told he will have to pick his 160 acres out of the two hundred million still on tap. He is convinced we are holding out on him, that somewhere under the counter, or back of the doors we have fine tracts with a shady building spot, running water and the hay ready to cut. Finally he leaves, convinced that there is something the matter with the Land Office.

Then come the "wailers," who complain that the United States Government is no good. They cannot make a living on the land, if they leave the land to earn money some one steals the cement cistern, or swipes their dug-out, or contests them, or all three and then some. Sometimes it's the neighbors, or the stock men, or the dry weather or hot winds. In fact everything is wrong. But if the United States would just take a hand, all would be well. When it is explained that the United States is busy, they reflect on the last election, and mourn over their lack of judgment in not having elected a political Moses, who would lead them up to a free lunch counter and fight all their personal battles.

Finally, as the day draws to a close, comes the sad case who was too spongelike in his absorption of the unauthorized editions of the homestead laws. His faith in human nature is shattered, his outlook warped. He will never believe anyone again and bitterly rails at the hard luck, which ever pursues the honest man.

But the men behind the counter take all this calmly, they have seen many sad and stormy scenes, but know recovery is very rapid once the homesteader knows he is standing on his own feet. With an outlook unmoved by anything said or done, this one gets the same effectual, but impersonal care and attention given to all.

"All this will pass," but the counter remains and its attendants are present at all times, the same steady front to all.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

##### Town Lot Sales.

November 3, 1917, a sale of lots in Newell townsite in the Bellefourche irrigation project, South Dakota,





took place at the townsite. Details of the sale are not available at present.

November 10, 1917, a sale of suburban lots in Heyburn townsite in the Minidoka irrigation project, Idaho, was held at the townsite, at which sale 42 lots were sold at public auction on the installment plan, aggregating \$12,430.00. The total appraised price of the lots sold amounted to \$9,670.00, thus realizing \$2,760.00 in excess of the appraised valuation. The initial payment amounted to \$2,678.00.

The report of the public sales of lots held October 5, 1917, in Batesville, in the former Fort Berthold Indian reservation, North Dakota, shows that 102 lots were sold for the aggregate sum of \$2,918.00, nearly \$2,000.00 over the appraised value of the lots.

A public sale of lots in D'Aste, Pablo, and Taber townsites in the Flathead Indian reservation, Montana, was held at D'Aste on November 15, 1917. No report has yet been received of the result of said sale.

October 29, 1917, the First Assistant Secretary of the Interior reserved lots 6, 7, 14, 15, 17, and 18, Sec. 5, T. 30 N., R. 32 E., in the Milk River irrigation project, Montana, containing 152.48 acres, for the townsite of Bowdoin; and on the same day directed a survey of said land into lots and blocks and the appraisalment of the lots with the further direction that the lots be offered at public sale at the townsite on December 1, 1917.

A survey of Hot Springs townsite, New Mexico, into lots and blocks under section 2384, U. S. Revised Statutes has been ordered. The hot springs in said townsite noted for their medicinal qualities will be embraced in a reserve to be used for public purposes only.

Entry has been made and approved for patenting of the land embraced in the townsite of Chloride, Arizona. A former entry made some years ago was canceled.

#### Ten Chain Lots.

One hundred and sixteen applications to purchase "ten chain lots" in Imperial County, California, under the act of March 3, 1909 (35 Stat., 779), have been approved for patenting up to the present writing; the purchase price amounting to \$15,298.00 at \$10.00 per acre. It is anticipated that the pending applications will increase this sum to over \$20,000.00.





## Coal Land Entry By Corporation.

An interesting decision, of no little importance in the public coal fields, was rendered by Acting Secretary Vogelsang October 27, 1917, in the case of the Diamond Coal and Coke Company, Evanston 04585; it being held therein, citing United States v. Trinidad Coal Co. (137 U. S., 160), that a private corporation is an "association of persons" within the meaning of the coal land laws, and, if at the date of a coal entry by such corporation all the stockholders therein are qualified it is entitled to receive a patent, irrespective of the qualifications of prior stockholders.

In his conclusion the Secretary says:

The showing made in this matter, and hereinbefore briefly set out, is to the effect that while it is alleged that certain coal entries made about twenty years ago by then stockholders of the company were in fact made for the benefit of the company, and therefore illegal, all of the present stockholders of the company are qualified coal entrymen, in that they are citizens of the United States and have never, individually or otherwise, received the benefit of the coal-land laws. In other words, so far as coal cash entry 04585, made by the company, is concerned, the stockholders of the corporation were at date of entry, and are now, qualified coal entrymen, and treating the corporation as an association of persons, it was, and is, qualified to make entry.

The Department therefore concludes that in the absence of other objections, patent should issue upon said entry, and you are directed to proceed accordingly. The action hereby taken has no bearing upon the suits recommended for the vacation of patents issued to former stockholders, involving an entirely different transaction and association of persons.

## Authority of the Commissioner.

In Jones vs. McNeil, Douglas 01215, decided September 22, 1917, First Assistant Secretary Vogelsang, in commenting on the authority of the Commissioner to grant an extension of time in which to submit desert land final proof, said:

The only contention presented upon this appeal is that the Commissioner of the General Land Office was without authority to grant a further extension





of time under the act of April 30, 1912 (37 Stat., 106), and that such extension could be granted only by the Secretary of the Interior. This contention is based upon the language of such act -- 'that the Secretary of the Interior may in his discretion in addition to the extension authorized by existing law grant to any entryman under the desert land laws a further extension of time within which he is required to make final proof.' It has always been the holding of the Department that in matters pertaining to the public domain, authority granted to the Secretary can be first exercised by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, subject to appeal to and revision by the Secretary of the Interior. Full authority for this mode of procedure is found in section 453, U. S. Revised Statutes. This practice is recognized under the act of April 30, 1912, by departmental instructions of May 21, 1912 (41 L. D., 28).

RESERVATION OF COAL UNDER HOMESTEAD  
ENTRIES WITHIN FORT BERTHOLD  
INDIAN RESERVATION  
NORTH DAKOTA.

Lands within the former Fort Berthold Indian reservation, North Dakota, formerly classified as non-coal lands were recently reclassified as coal lands.

Departmental instructions dated November 16, 1917, hold that on entries of these lands allowed prior to the coal classification on which final proof has not been submitted, but for which final payment has not been made, and under which final certificates have not issued, and on those allowed prior to the coal classification, under which final certificates have issued but which have not yet been patented, patent without any reservation of the coal should be issued; but that as to entries allowed subsequent to the coal classification, patent with a reservation of the coal deposits to the United States under the act of February 27, 1917 (39 Stat., 944), should be issued.

The Department stated that on entries allowed prior to the coal classification the situation is similar in principle to that of the Crow Indian, Montana, lands which were the subject of the Department's instructions of June 1, 1915 (44 L. D., 121), the syllabus of which reads:

"Where lands within the former Crow Indian reservation were sold under the act of April 27, 1904, as non-





mineral, and subsequently, before final payment of the purchase price, were classified as coal, absolute patent therefor will issue to the purchaser, upon completion of the payments, notwithstanding such classification."

The Crow lands were sold at public auction to the highest bidder and purchasers were not required to make any non-mineral showing, either at the time of purchase or when final payment was made; the Fort Berthold lands were opened under the homestead law, and, while non-mineral affidavits were not required in all cases at the time of entry, the regulations under which the lands were opened provide that entrymen must furnish evidence of the non-mineral and non-saline character of the lands entered, before their final proofs will be accepted.

#### IMPROVEMENTS AT NENANA.

The town of Nenana, the northern construction terminus of the Alaska railroad, is rapidly acquiring all the conveniences to be found in towns of similar size in the older-settled regions of continental United States.

In addition to such utilities as electric light and telephones which were installed several months ago, the business and residence districts have graded streets and permanent sidewalks, and modern water and sewer systems are now being provided.

Among the improvements are an \$8000 schoolhouse, a townsite office and an up-to-date fire hall. About 300 acres of land adjoining the town have been surveyed into acre tracts, and a number of these tracts are to be offered for public sale.

Alaska Railroad Record.

#### GROWING UP WITH THE WEST.

From the Boston Transcript.

Officer - What do you intend to do in America?

Immigrant - Take up land, sir.

Officer - Much?

Immigrant - A shovelful at a time.





## FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.

From one of our Soldiers.-

I never was happier or more satisfied with my lot in life than I am today, and I am sure that I would be the most uncomfortable man in the world if I were now wearing anything but khaki. And just as soon as the first casualty lists begin to arrive, and the Benedict Arnolds are smothered, we will all feel the way a soldier wants to feel - that his country and her citizens are with him clear to the end of everything. All this holier-than-thou peace agitation is mighty disconcerting to men daily improving their knowledge of the art of war with the one idea of avenging insult to their country's honor.

To which the Bulletin responds.-

My dear boy there never yet was any great deed done for the love of home and country, or patriotic sacrifice made to the end that the principles of true freedom might forever abide among men, that it was not discounted at the bar of Heaven, by the specious cry of the pacifist. Just why God made snakes, either the kind that crawls on its belly, or walks on two legs, no one knows. Personally, we think it was a mistake, and that He would not do it now if it was up to Him again. However that may be, they will never count in the grand roundup of men. This is a war in which the world will be made anew - - the overgrown Bully of the nations will be relegated to the scrap heap. Thrones resting on the divine right, will go to the junk shop. Men will rule in their own right. For these things you have set your face toward the battlefield. The Lord said to Joshua: "Only do thou be strong and of a good courage, and I, the Lord God, will be with thee whithersoever thou goest." And what he said to Joshua then he says to you now.

From the Field Division,  
Portland:

Perhaps your attention has never been called to the fact that in 1855 Robert G. Ingersoll, the famous agnostic, was a clerk in the United States Land Office at Shawneetown, Gallatin County, Illinois, under Captain Cunningham, Register, and Samuel K. Casey, Receiver. I have thought that this information, together with some search of General Land Office records, might serve as a basis for an interesting article in the Bulletin.

From Salt Lake City.-

This office has greatly appreciated the receipt of





the Bulletin each month since its publication and has kept the numbers on file so that each member of the office force could have access to the same.

This little magazine fills a much needed want in the field, giving the news from the Washington office as well as from the different local offices in the field, and is like a "letter from home."

So far we have had no news of any moment to furnish the Bulletin, but trust as time goes on that we will be able to contribute our mite. We are receiving many applications for leaves of absence from the young men of Utah who have enlisted in the Army or Navy.

#### THE HOME CLUB AT HOME.

The 1917 season of the Home Club was formally opened on the evening of November 14, with a brilliant reception by Secretary and Mrs. Lane to the members of the club and their friends. The presence of so many representative members of the several bureaus who have been identified with the club from the date of its organization was a pleasant confirmation of the general belief that interest in the club is a matter of Departmental faith. Whatever diversity of interest may exist between the several bureaus, they all are equally loyal to the Home Club. This is due to the common recognition of the sound basic idea upon which the club is founded. A social democracy in the executive workshop! The capitalization of social wealth not otherwise invested, for the development of a fundamental community of interest in the public service. The club, therefore, is an educational and social center, available at all times to its members and their families, and, in that vital respect alone, commends itself not only to those in the service who take advantage of such opportunities, but also to those who cherish high ideals for the betterment of the service.

Incidentally the club has demonstrated its value as a central base for the prosecution of war relief work, and kindred activities; a function which its founders could not have anticipated, but a result none the less to their credit. The General Land Office has from the first been active in its support of the club and its policies, and now looks forward to the permanency of the club as one of the most valuable of the perquisites that go with the public land service.





RE MEASURE OF DAMAGE FOR AN UNINTENTIONAL

TIMBER TRESPASS.

On October 25, 1917, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, handed down a decision in the timber trespass suit styled Hammond vs United States. The suit was originally instituted in the U. S. District Court, Northern District of California, Second Division, by the United States to recover the value of a large amount of timber alleged to have been cut in trespass from public lands in the Missoula, Montana Land District by A. B. Hammond and others. The District Court awarded to the Government damages fixed by a jury at \$51,040. The defendant moved for a new trial. The motion was denied in an opinion rendered by the District Court September 25, 1914, (226 Fed. 849). An appeal was entered, alleging erroneous instructions to the jury.

The action was in the form of trover and conversion and the District Court instructed the jury that the Government is entitled to the severed value of the timber and to interest thereon from the date of the conversion to the date of the bringing of the action, if the conversion be found to have been unintentional.

The conversion in this case had been committed seventeen years prior to the institution of the suit and the interest awarded by the jury amounted to \$19,040 or 119 per cent on the stumpage value of the timber. The Court of Appeals considered quite exhaustively the question pertaining to the measure of damages for an unintentional conversion. It held that the Government was entitled to the severed value of the timber, but that the lower court erred when it instructed that the plaintiff was entitled to interest, and remanded the case to the District Court for retrial.

The decision is interesting in two respects. It holds that the severed value rule laid down by the United States Supreme Court in the case of U. S. vs. St Anthony Railroad Company (192 U. S. 524) is governing in a case of unintentional timber conversion, and further that the matter of awarding interest is not compulsory, but should be left within the discretion of the jury. The court seemed to intimate that in cases where the Government permits a long period of years to elapse between the time of the trespass and the date of instituting the suit, the jury may be justified in holding the Government guilty of laches and thereupon refuse to





award interest. This rule as to award of interest is obviously applicable in suits other than those involving recovery for timber trespasses.

## EARLY DAYS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Thomas A. Hendricks was appointed by President Pierce in August, 1855, Commissioner of the General Land Office. Until the act of March 3, 1849, the General Land Office was a bureau in the Treasury Department, but by that act the Home Department, now the Department of the Interior, was created and the General Land Office included therein. The Secretary of the Interior at that time was Robert McClellan of Michigan, and the Department occupied the central portion of the present Patent Office building.

When Mr. Hendricks took the office the work was nearly four years in arrears.

Government surveys were progressing far beyond the confines of civilization. In the vast plains beyond the Mississippi and the Missouri, and through the valleys of California in the regions bordering on British America and on the plateaus bordering the Rio Grande, the theodolite and the chain, directed by the Land Office, were running the lines for future settlements.

It is stated that the work of each clerk was by a single order, increased twenty-five per cent, in order that the accumulation of the delinquent work of the office might be reduced, and eventually all the work was brought up until the office was but four months in arrears. Nearly 400,000 land patents were issued by Commissioner Hendricks and 20,000 contested land cases were decided.

A secret of the Commissioner's success in the office was his personal acquaintance with the clerks. There was none that he did not know and estimate by his own judgment as to qualifications. Where efficiency and zeal were shown, coupled with good character, there was no need to fear removal through pressure of the "spoils system."

He encouraged those of his clerks who were professionally inclined, to pursue studies in law, he himself organized a law school in the office and conducted it in the evenings.

In 1856 Buchanan was elected President of the





United States. The new Secretary of the Interior was Jacob Thompson of Mississippi, and he early took occasion to assure the Commissioner that he was not to be superseded; the latter accepted the reappointment, being deeply interested in working out the reforms he had begun.

The official career of Commissioner Hendricks may be briefly stated as follows:

- 1848 - Chosen a Member of the State Legislature of Indiana.
- 1850 - Served in the State Constitutional Convention.
- 1851 - Member of Congress from Indiana two terms.
- 1855 - Commissioner of the General Land Office.
- 1862 - U. S. Senator from Indiana.
- 1870 - Governor of the State of Indiana.
- 1885 - Vice President of the United States.

#### POTASH DEPOSITS OPENED TO EXPLORATION.

The act of October 2, 1917, authorizes the exploration for and disposition of potash deposits generally in the public lands of the United States, under a system that provides for a preliminary permit, which grants to the holder the exclusive privilege of searching the land contained therein for deposits of potash for a period not exceeding two years. The acreage embraced within one permit is limited to 2560 acres, and the act provides that upon a satisfactory showing to the Secretary of the Interior that valuable deposits of potash have been found within the land covered by the permit, the permittee shall be entitled to receive a patent to not exceeding one-fourth of the amount covered by the permit. All other lands described and embraced in the prospecting permit, after the exercise of the right to patent accorded to the discoverer, if found to contain potash, may be leased by the Secretary of the Interior, through advertisement, competitive bidding, or such other methods as he may by general regulations adopt, and any such areas as he shall fix, not exceeding 2560 acres. Leases thus issued will require the payment by the lessee of such royalty as may be specified in the lease, but not less than two per centum on the gross value of the output at the point of shipment. Leases will issue for indeterminate periods upon





the payment of a rental of 25 cents per acre for the first year, not less than 50 cents for the second, third, fourth and fifth years respectively, and one dollar per acre for each and every year thereafter during the continuance of the lease, the rentals for any year to be credited against the royalties as they accrue for that year. All leases will be issued subject to the condition that at the end of each twenty-year period succeeding the date thereof, such readjustment of terms and conditions may be made as the Secretary of the Interior may determine.

The Lake Searles brine deposit of potash in San Bernardino County, California, is specifically excepted from the provision authorizing the issuance of permits, but may be operated by the United States or leased if such action is deemed advisable.

Broadly stated, the foregoing covers the general scope of the potash act, but while it is extremely liberal in its terms in order to induce an active exploration of our public lands for potash deposits, it also contains ample and specific provisions for the protection of the public from any monopolistic control of potash thereunder.

Regulations covering the issuance of permits and the acquisition of rights thereunder are now in hand and will doubtless be available before the receipt of this number of the Bulletin.





## GOOD CROP SHOWING FROM ALASKA.

The value of this season's agricultural crop of the Matanuska Valley, as estimated by Andrew Christensen, manager of the Land and Industrial Department, is placed at \$200,000. The principal product of the district is potatoes, but turnips, cabbages and hardy small grain also yielded profitable returns. The dealers of Anchorage, in order to encourage the use of home produce, have agreed to handle locally-raised vegetables exclusively and to pay three cents a pound for potatoes, delivered at the Matanuska loading station. The merchants have agreed to retail potatoes at four cents per pound in 100-pound sacks and not to exceed five cents per pound in lots of less than 100 pounds.

The yield of Matanuska potatoes this season is estimated at 3000 tons by Mr. Christensen, and the turnip crop at 300 tons. Arrangements have been made to ship 20 tons of turnips to the Seattle market on the next voyage of the transport Crook, a rate of \$4.00 per ton having been secured from the Alaskan Engineering Commission. Should this trial shipment prove satisfactory other consignments will follow. The entire potato crop will be disposed of locally, if possible; if not, efforts will be made to dispose of the surplus in the coast towns of the Territory.

In view of the fact that farming has been carried on in the Matanuska district only during the past two years, the showing made by the homesteaders of that section is truly remarkable. Prior to the summer of 1916 there were no facilities for the transportation of farm produce and consequently no incentive was offered settlers to locate on the land. With the coming of the railroad homesteaders rapidly took advantage of the rich soil and accessibility to the markets, so that today fully 400 farmers are deriving a livelihood from agriculture in the vicinity of the Matanuska Valley.

-Alaska Railroad Record.





## ARKANSAS LAKE AND SUNK LAND LITIGATION.

On November 5, 1917, the United States Supreme Court rendered a decision favorable to the Government in the case of Lee Wilson and Company vs. United States, affirming the holdings of the United States District Court and the United States Circuit Court of Appeals (214 Fed. 630; 227 Fed. 827).

The above styled suit involved an area locally known as "Moon Lake" situated in Northeastern Arkansas. It is one of the so-called "Lake and Sunk Land" areas of that state. The suit was started by the Government as a test suit for the purpose of determining the question of title and has been fought stubbornly step by step for the past eight years, through the Land Department, and through the courts. It is needless to say that the Land Department is gratified over the approval which has been stamped upon its action which in the beginning appeared to many to be erroneous.

The term "Sunk Lands" has become a sort of household word to the people of Eastern Arkansas and to many of the employees of the General Land Office. It was used to designate an area extending for a distance of approximately 40 miles along the St. Francis River, comprising about 50,000 acres, of river bottom land, which is somewhat lower than the adjacent lands, and which was supposed to have sunk sometime during the years 1811 and 1812, as a result of the New Madrid Earthquakes. See U. S. Geological Survey Bulletin No. 494, published in 1912. When the original surveys were made in Eastern Arkansas during the early 40's the Sunk Lands and also a number of supposed lakes, said to have been formed by the earthquakes, were meandered and shown as water areas upon the official plats. So-called Moon Lake was one of these areas.

Soon after the passage of the Swamp Land Act of September 28, 1850, (9 Stat., 519), the State of Arkansas began selecting the swamp lands and in many instances all of the surveyed lands within a given township would be embraced in a single selection and later approved and patented to the state accordingly. The sunk lands and so-called lakes were covered with a heavy virgin forest of hardwood and softwood timber and in no sense resembled permanently water covered areas except during times of overflow due to heavy rains or rises of the Mississippi River. In time the state doubtless acted upon the assumption that all of the land, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, within the exterior limits of the township had passed to it. In 1893, the St. Francis Levee District was organized and the State Legislature gave it jurisdiction over all of the undisposed of swamp lands in its district. It thereupon proceeded to sell the unsurveyed areas. There were others, however, who had acquired from the state, the title to the surveyed lands abutting on the meander line and they treated the meandered and excluded areas as not being parts of the public





domain subject to survey and to disposal by the United States. These supposedly conflicting interests gave rise to several suits which were started in the state courts, and which ultimately reached the U. S. Supreme Court. Little vs. Williams (88 Arkansas 37; 231 U. S. 335); Chapman and Dewey Lumber Company vs. St. Francis Levee District (100 Arkansas 100; 232 U. S. 186).

That the so-called lake and sunk lands of Northeastern Arkansas were not permanently water covered areas, but were in reality lands in place when the original surveys were made was not a conceded fact. That there were many cases of fraud and flagrant error in the surveys in the State of Arkansas was undeniable. Comments thereupon were made in the annual reports of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the years 1849, page 297; 1850, page 61; 1852, page 128; 1853, page 86; 1858, pages 22, 23, and 95. In the report of 1858, attention was called to the fact that the U. S. Surveyor General had reported the existence of unsurveyed lands on the St. Francis River (So-called Sunk Lands) and that applications had been presented for the resurveys of alleged fraudulent and erroneous work of former years. The Commissioner stated that he was of the opinion that such resurveys would be generally attended with difficulties and complicate the evils sought to be avoided.

Further consideration of the subject does not appear to have been had by the Land Department until 1894. The St. Francis Levee District, created in 1893, was endeavoring to have the Department render a decision which would tend to settle the question of title inasmuch as the Levee Board did not feel sure that the title was not vested in the Government. On November 30, 1894, the Secretary of the Interior rendered an opinion (unpublished) in which all assertion of Government ownership was disclaimed. The opinion virtually concluded that the lands belonged to the alleged riparian owners. The question was again brought to the attention of the Department in 1902, and on November 17, 1902, an opinion (unpublished) was rendered. The latter opinion was similar to the opinion of 1894.

For a considerable period of time the Land Department considered that the dried up lake beds of permanent lakes and streams on the public domain belonged to the Government, irrespective of whether or not the lands abutting on the meander line had been disposed of prior to the drying up of the lakes. It accordingly caused the lines of the public surveys to be extended over such areas. See the Commissioner's annual reports for 1865, page 20; 1867, page 104; 1868, page 121. The question of whether or not the survey was erroneous or fraudulent was not considered during that period. That practice was suddenly terminated, however, when the U. S. Supreme Court rendered its opinions in the cases of Hardin vs. Jordan (140 U. S., 371) and Kean vs. Calumet Canal Company (190 U. S., 452). The "let-alone" policy was then adopted and the Department for a time refused to allow





applications for surveys of any so-called lake areas, that were shown as lakes upon the official plats. It was during the latter period that the Departmental Decisions of November 30, 1894, supra, and November 17, 1902, supra, were rendered. Subsequently the Department adopted what is now considered to be the correct procedure, that is, where an application for survey of a so-called lake area is presented, to inquire into the conditions and, if it is conclusively found upon proper hearing that the lands were erroneously or fraudulently omitted from the surveys, to assert title on behalf of the Government to such areas and to cause them to be surveyed. The final consideration of the so-called Sunk Land cases may doubtless be considered as the beginning of the correct procedure in this line of cases. See 37 L. D., 345 and 462.

Up to the present time the Department has asserted title on behalf of the Government to the St. Francis River Sunk Lands, Big, Browns, Buford, Clear, Carter's, Flat, Golden, Grassy, Carsons, Hickory, Round, Swan, Tyronza, Walker and Moon lakes, situated in the State of Arkansas. The areas total approximately 100,000 acres, conservatively estimated to be worth \$3,500,000. See Attorney General's report for 1911. There are a number of similar cases still pending before the Land Department.

Agricultural lands, richer in fertility than the so-called lake and sunk lands of Northeastern Arkansas, are not to be found anywhere in the whole Southwestern part of the United States. That has been attested by the avidity with which these lands have been sought by persons from all parts of the country. Some of the best farms within the vicinity of the Mississippi River are being developed by these settlers, who, prior to the taking over of the lands by the Government, possessed no lands of their own.

The permanent water area of Big Lake is said to be without exception, the finest refuge for ducks and other wild fowls in the Mississippi River Valley. Many persons, locally known as "Market Hunters", had engaged for a number of years in the practice of annually shooting vast numbers of the birds and of shipping them to the markets of the neighboring states. That practice threatened the extermination of the birds. In order to stop the practice stringent State and Federal laws were enacted. When the Government claimed the Big Lake area, it established a Bird Reservation there and the birds have since been accorded better protection.

Many intricate questions with respect to these lands have arisen and are still arising and thousands of inquiries have been received and answered. The legal fight to determine the question of title has been long and tedious. But the Land Department has been justified in devoting so much time to this work at the outset because it will have relieved itself of much future work that would undoubtedly have arisen in controversies involving the question of title to these lands.





## WAR WORK ASSOCIATION.

The Interior Department War Work Association wishes to express in this way its very warm thanks and appreciation for the generous response on the part of the employees of the Interior Department in contributing to the work which is being done. So many subscriptions have been received that it is impossible to acknowledge their receipt personally. The money that is received is used for the purchase of materials from which sweaters, socks, helmets, etc., are being made for the boys of the Interior Department who have gone into the Army, and I know that I can say for them that they too appreciate what you are doing.

MRS. FRANKLIN K. LANE,  
Chairman.

November 7, 1917.

## CONTRIBUTION TO THE WAR WORK COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

It will be gratifying to the employees of the General Land Office to know that their total contribution to the National War Work Council of the Young Mens Christian Association of the United States amounted to \$252.45. Receipt of this subscription was acknowledged by the Y. M. C. A., November 20, 1917. Not the least satisfactory item in connection with this contribution was the spontaneous character of the response made by the office when the necessities of the situation were made known.

## SECOND LIBERTY LOAN.

The latest reports of the subscription by the General Land Office and its various branches of field service to the second Liberty Loan bring the amount up to \$200,300. This is a magnificent response to the call of the country and is considerably in excess of the estimate made by the office at the close of the loan campaign.





## HONOR ROLL.

The following members of the General Land Office are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

1. Jacob Berman, 1st Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.
2. W. S. Binley, 2d Lieut., National Army.
3. Alvin Colburn, Captain, National Army.
4. F. J. Connolly, 1st Lieut., Aviation Corps.
5. W. A. Crawford, Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.
6. B. H. Dalton, Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.
7. H. K. Dinan, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.
8. James G. Hamilton, Clerk in Quartermaster's Corps.
9. A. D. Hathaway, Captain, D. C. National Guard.
10. F. E. Hedges, Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.
11. Frank S. Hemmick, 1st. Lieut. Signal Corps.
12. Lewis E. Hoffman, Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force.
13. H. L. Kays, 2d Lieut., D. C. National Guard.
14. A. C. Lakenan, Corporal Clerk, Regular Army.
15. C. C. Mullady, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.
16. Elmer Bendell, 2d Lieut., Officers' Reserve Corps.
17. W. H. Ritenour, Seaman, 2d Class, Naval Reserves.  
Accidentally killed in line of duty.
18. W. M. Sullivan, 2d Lieut., Sixth Regiment Infantry,  
U. S. Army.





## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Since our last issue Charles A. Obenchain, Charles T. M. Cutcheon, Frederick T. Livings, and Fred L. Van Dolsen have been transferred from the Interior Department, General Land Office, to the Treasury Department for service in the office of the Auditor for the War Department, and assigned to duty in France. They are good men, chosen from our office on account of their special training; and, while we regret their loss from the land service, must at the same time congratulate the Treasury Department upon their acquisition.

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Here for a short call. Mr. J. O. Seth, formerly of the General Land Office, now in charge of the legal work in the Albuquerque District of the Forest Service.

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A special friend of the Bulletin in the field has now entered the Land Service at headquarters: Miss Lura E. Headle, by transfer from the District Land Office at Lamar, Colorado.

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The graduation of Frank S. Hemmick of our office from the second training camp at Fort Myer, with a commission as First Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, has been announced; and speaking for the office the Bulletin extends to him its heartiest congratulations, with full confidence as to the manner in which he will acquit himself in the military service!

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Mr. J. D. Yelverton, Chief of the Field Service, who for the last eight months has been occupied with his duties on the Pacific Coast and in the Southwest, has returned to official headquarters.

## TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:-

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE

U. S. LAND OFFICE  
EL CENTRO, CAL.

Date JAN 10 1918

Hour                     

Vol. 1.

January 1, 1918.

No. 11.

1917-18.

This Holiday Season is unprecedented in our national life. This Christmas and New Year finds us as a people confronted with problems scarcely thought of and little comprehended one year ago. On the strength, devotion and sacrifice with which we meet the present crisis doubtless depends not only the fate of our own country as a free people, but the fate of Democracy in the world. Will we meet the test, - the test of sacrifice, of blood, of unity of action, of unselfishness, of loyalty, of ability to fight to the last for the perpetuation of our national ideals? No American who understands anything of the significance of the forces now in death grapple, can answer other than in the affirmative; not only can we meet the test but we must.

Who would have thought as we sat down to our Christmas dinner one year ago, that by now our men in khaki would be on the firing line in France, that our ships would be seeking out the deadly submarine, that we would have a million of our best young men in training; that we would have raised billions of dollars for war and hundreds of millions for war relief, that our whole national activity should be transformed from peaceful pursuits to those of a war requiring every energy and every resource at our command? And yet as we see things now in the light of past and present events, it was just as sure and certain that we would ultimately have to get into this war as the day follows the night. The German obsession to dominate the world, her undoubted determination to plunge all Europe into war to accomplish this purpose, her entire





absence of anything approaching national integrity, the rape of Belgium, the annihilation of Serbia, the ruthless disregard of the rights of neutrals, the base intrigues, the horrible brutality in the conduct of the war, the Russian débacle, and lastly Germany's unquestioned designs on America in case she wins, all point unerringly to the fact that the world is not big enough for the Germany the Kaiser seeks to create and any other great nation. We were doomed to get into it sooner or later. Not only are we fighting to make the world safe for Democracy but to make the United States safe for ourselves.

And so, August 1, 1914, is a thing of the past; we can not return to it; the swift march of events during the past three years has completely changed our national purpose, our social and economic condition and our relation to world affairs. It is a time for forward looking, not dreaming of the past. Our success depends much on the rapidity with which the genius of our people grasps and meets the changing situation, for no man knows what tomorrow will bring forth.

Manifestly, our main and only purpose now should be to win the war; nothing should distract us in the slightest degree from that purpose. Manifestly also, every man that is not with us heart and soul is against us, and what is worse, is amongst us. This is no time for trifling with those who are seditious, or even lukewarm. Criticism and fault finding not constructive or helpful in its character, is a proper subject of suspicion; the rumor monger is already busy; Russia has been tricked and intrigued into chaos; the Teuton presumption knows no limit.

Clearly, this holiday season of 1917-18 is a time for serious thinking from which nobody is excluded or exempted; the time to do with all our might is here; doubtless next Christmas will not witness a conclusion; be that as it may, we mean to stay to the bitter end and to emerge, finally, scarred perhaps, but victorious.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

### Appointments.

#### General Land Office:-

Clerks at \$1000: James Conlon and Frederick E. Walch of New York; James R. Cooper of Florida; Joseph A. Gilligan, of Pennsylvania; Thomas B. Irvine of Montana; John C. Wallace, of California; Ullen F. Logue, of Mississippi; copyists at \$900: Miss Ruth E. Steadman and Joseph A. Shafer of the District of Columbia; John R. McCormick, of Arkansas; Eugene H. Johnson, of Wisconsin; and Miss Anna M. Gaede, of the District of Columbia, copyist at \$720; Aruna R. Buck and Louis L. America, of the District of Columbia, messenger boys at \$480 per annum.

#### Local Offices:-

Arthur I. Powell, of California, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office at Los Angeles, California.

John Dewey Davis, of Utah, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, Office Surveyor General, Utah.

Miss Ethel Freeman, of Missouri, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, land office at Little Rock, Arkansas.

### Transfers.

#### Field Service:-

Zacharias C. Bartel, of Montana, from typewriter at \$1020 in the office of the Surveyor General, Montana, to same position in Office of Chief of Field Division, Helena, Montana.

### Promotions.

#### General Land Office:-

Asa N. Cumniford, of Michigan, to clerk at \$1600.

Miss Rachel C. Levy, of New York, to clerk at \$1400.

James S. Collins, of Michigan, and James D. Tyler, of Kansas to clerks at \$1200.

### Resignations.

#### General Land Office:-

Christopher C. Burston, of Washington clerk at \$1000.





Aldie R. Greene, of Michigan, clerk at \$1000.

Arthur A. O'Leary, of District of Columbia, messenger boy at \$600.

Claud A. Nolen, of Texas, Assistant Messenger at \$720.

Julius H. Hammond, of Colorado, Clerk at \$1200, on account of ill health.

Henry D. Billings, of District of Columbia, messenger boy at \$480.

Leo T. Farrell, of Iowa, clerk at \$1000, on account of enlisting in the Army.

Bartley Searcy, of Alabama, skilled laborer at \$660.

#### Local Offices;-

Roy E. Chase, of Colorado, surveyor at \$170 per month, land office at Denver, Colorado.

Ray D. Shoemaker, of Montana, stenographer and typewriter at \$1260, office of the Chief of Field Division, Helena, Montana.

#### Separations.

James C. Hooper, of California, U. S. Transitman at \$110 per month, because of having entered the Aviation Service of the Army.

William L. Nash, of Arizona, U. S. Transitman at \$110 per month, because of having been commissioned a Captain of Artillery.

Philip L. Inch, of the District of Columbia, U. S. Transitman at \$120 per month, because of entering the Army.

Carl S. Swarholm of Idaho, U. S. Transitman at \$110 per month, because of entering the Army.

Marvin J. Lytle, of Wyoming, U. S. Transitman at \$100 per month, because of enlisting in the Army.

Willis J. Millrick, of Idaho, U. S. Transitman at \$100 per month, because of enlisting in the Army.





Guy R. Veal, of Kentucky; U. S. Transitman at \$120 per month, because of enlisting in the 23rd Engineers, National Army.

Louis H. Pinkham, Jr., of Washington, U. S. Transitman at \$110 per month, because of entering the Army.

Edward L. Kimball, of Oregon, stenographer and typewriter at \$1020 per annum, Land Office, Vale, Oregon, because of enlisting in the Aviation Service.

Oswald West, of Oregon, Assistant Attorney, General Land Office resigned on December 11 from appointment made September 26, 1917, giving him authority to disburse the funds appropriated for the payment of the taxes due on the Oregon and California Railroad Land Grant, the work having been completed.

#### SURVEY NOTES.

##### Public Land Survey Systems.

It is a long way measured by both time and distance from "Ellicott's Line," the first established meridian to be used as a reference line for public land surveys back in 1785 in the state of Ohio, to the Seward Meridian and Base Line established in 1911 in the Territory of Alaska for a similar purpose. During the intervening one hundred and twenty-six years, thirty-five additional meridians and base lines have been established from time to time on the public domain to serve as reference lines for widely separated systems of surveys. Many of these systems in the eastern and central states and a few of the very small ones in the western states have been expanded to practical completion, but in the twelve active public land states a great area is still being surveyed annually under about a dozen different but contiguous survey systems. In Alaska group surveys are being made in three widely separated localities each under its own principal meridian and base line.

The story of the establishment of each initial meridian and base line and of the spread of the rectangular net thereunder is the story of the settlement and development of the public domain. It will be recalled that by the treaty of 1783 England relinquished all rights to lands between the Mississippi River and the original states north of 31° of north latitude. So much of this territory as lay east of the Allegheny Mountains was claimed by the adjoining original states, while in addition thereto certain of the states claimed lands beyond the Alleghenies, basing their contentions on their crown grants which





extended to the "South Sea" or Pacific Ocean. Finally on account of controversies arising between the states as a result of the vagueness of position and extent of the crown lands, they were ceded to the Federal government and thus was created the original public domain of the United States. With the acquisition of more territory from France in 1803, from Spain in 1819, from Mexico in 1848 and 1853, from Great Britain through the determination of boundaries in 1846, and from Russia in 1867, vast tracts were added to the public domain out of which territories and states were afterwards formed with the reservation however that title to the unappropriated lands therein should rest in the general government. It was primarily for the purpose of identifying these public lands in order that disposition might be made of them by the government that the rectangular survey was inaugurated. And it was with a view to meeting the demands for all classes of cadastral surveys in many different parts of the country often at the same time that the many different initial bases and meridians were established.

The tide of emigration and the extent of settlement, as well as local physical characteristics, largely determined the geographical positions and the areas of the different survey systems quite regardless of considerations of uniformity of relation of one system to another, or of size. Thus we find that the requirements of identification and settlement were such as permitted the survey of the entire states of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, North Dakota and large portions of Minnesota and South Dakota under the 5th Principal Meridian and Base Line; the entire system (the largest in the country) embracing an area of approximately 350,500 square miles, while in western Colorado within the limits of the second largest survey system an entirely independent unit of only about 410 square miles was surveyed some years ago under the Ute Principal Meridian and Base Line. This is the smallest survey system in the country and was created because the necessity for immediate survey was such as would not admit of the delay incident to a projection of lines from the larger system to the field under consideration. Similar conditions in various parts of the West have necessitated similar treatment in the past. The task before the General Land Office has ever been and is to meet in the most expeditious, practical and efficient manner an ever present emergency brought about through the operation of forces whose extent and direction are limited only by man's desire to improve his material welfare - the forces of civilization. And when it is remembered that only nineteen states of the United States ever retained control of the lands within their boundaries and could dispose of them as they saw fit, and that all the rest with Alaska, covering about 79% of the whole, constituted the public domain, and that the business of surveying, protecting, classifying and disposing of this immense expanse of the earth's surface, - of laying the foundation for its physical development, fell to the lot of the General Land Office, some idea can be formed of the place this office fills in the vast and inspiring panorama of the evolution and progress of that wonderful land of plenty between "Ellicott's Line" on the east boundary of Ohio and the Seward Meridian and Base Line in Alaska.

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In the death of Roy J. Gill, U. S. Surveyor, at Phoenix, Arizona, on December 12, 1917, the public land service loses one of its most faithful and valuable members and the community at large an honored and respected citizen. Mr. Gill was born in Franklin County, North Carolina, thirty three years ago. He was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the A. & M. College of North Carolina, and immediately thereafter commenced his professional career in railroad construction work. In June 1908 he entered the Philippine service as a surveyor and was transferred therefrom to this service in 1914. He has served with credit in Washington, Arizona, Montana and Alaska.

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A. C. Horton, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, who was recently commissioned First Lieutenant, combatant forces, Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps, has been directed by the War Department to report to the Presidio for a course of training. Sidney E. Blout, U. S. Surveyor, Grade 4, of District No. 5, has been designated Acting Assistant Supervisor of Surveys during Mr. Horton's absence.

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W. L. Hemphill, U. S. Transitman, District No. 8, who has been in training at the Presidio, has been appointed Captain of Artillery, and has been placed on the active list.

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Guy R. Veal and Philip L. Inch, U. S. Transitmen, District No. 1, have resigned from this service and have enlisted in the 23rd Regiment, Engineers, Camp Meade, Maryland. District No. 1 now has three of its transitmen enlisted in the 23d Engineers. The third transitman is Theodore Cronyn.

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Carl S. Swanholm, and Willis J. Millrick, U. S. Transitmen, District No. 7, have resigned from the service and have enlisted in the Army.

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Wallace G. Shapcott, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 2, was given a commission as Captain of Artillery in the Army November 27th upon the close of the Second Reserve Officers' Training Camp at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Captain Shapcott is making a short visit to his home at Colorado Springs, where he will await assignment to active duty.

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Marvin J. Lytle, U. S. Transitman, District No. 2, has resigned





from the service and has joined the Aviation Corps of the Army.

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W. C. Perkins, U. S. Transitman, District No. 4, has joined the 23d Engineers, Camp Meade, Maryland. He has been ordered to report for duty January 1, 1918.

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James W. Scanlan, U. S. Transitman, District No. 3, has joined the artillery branch of the Army.

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The service flag in the office of the Supervisor of Surveys at Denver contains at present twenty-six stars representing twenty-six permanent members of the Field Surveying Service now with the military forces of the country. It was at first thought feasible to include temporary field assistants in the list of those to be so honored on the flag, but immediately question arose as to what period of service qualified a man as an assistant. If only those who were actually in active service at the time of the call to the military were to be classed as assistants it would be manifestly unfair to many who are employed on the field parties only during certain seasons of the year, but who were not so employed at the time of the call. Furthermore many assistants this season remained with the parties for only a few days or a week and then left for more profitable employment. No record has been kept of these men.

Our records show that something over one hundred temporary field assistants have left the parties since the declaration of war with Germany to join the military forces of the government, while in addition thereto probably from one to two hundred others who have been connected with the surveys of this office at one time or another are now in the Army or Navy, many having enlisted since disbandment of the field parties this fall.

While it is impracticable to keep track of all temporary employees after they leave this service and therefore impossible to honor even in so slight a degree as by representation on a service flag those of this class who are with the colors, this office desires to express its gratification at the ready and unselfish response of its employees both classified and temporary to the call of the country.

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L. E. Wilkes, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 8, has completed the examination and resurvey of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Group No. 29, Oregon.

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Fred Mensch, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 8, will shortly complete the investigation he is making of the north and west boundaries of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Group No. 30, Oregon.

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A. N. Kimmell, Earl G. Harrington, and H. L. Baldwin, U. S. Surveyors of the Eastern District, who recently disbanded their field parties for the season, have reported to the Supervisor of Surveys at Denver for office work in connection with the preparation of their returns. Messrs. Kimmell and Harrington, who have been engaged on Indian surveys on the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota report having disbanded just in time to miss the exceptionally cold weather which visited the northern part of that state during the early part of December.

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Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys, has returned to Washington from his trip to Louisiana and Arkansas.

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G. D. D. Kirkpatrick, Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 6, returned to his headquarters at Salt Lake City after an extended trip to the extreme southern central part of Utah where he visited the field parties on Groups Nos. 50 and 51.

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Several of the districts have demonstrated in striking manner that even in these times of high prices and scarcity of labor surveys can be executed at a cost which would do credit to other times. Districts Nos. 2 and 3 have both made an excellent showing in the cost of subsistence and in camp maintenance which is reflected in the ultimate cost per mile. Other districts have done equally as well when the field conditions confronting them this season are taken into consideration. This shows what can be done when we all buckle down and put her across regardless of difficulties.

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Frank M. Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, has arrived in Washington for consultation on matters pertaining to the business of the Field Surveying Service.

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## LIFE ON THE LINE.

Life on the line in the great Out West  
Is happy or sad as one thinks;  
Through sunshine and tempest the line must be run  
And must close within fifty links.

The course of our lives, like the lines on the ground,  
Must be shaped by a star on high;  
Through joy and sorrow we must plug right along  
To the shores of the sweet bye and bye.

And though life on the line may be crowded with toil  
There are times when it's hard to beat;  
We are handed a thorn with every sweet rose,  
But, O Boy! Ain't the roses sweet?

(The author of this, on the advice of counsel,  
declines to publicly disclose his identity).

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The United States Civil Service Commission announces the postponement to February 6 and 7, 1918, of the open competitive examination for surveyor, for men only, formerly announced to be held on January 9 and 10, 1918.

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The surveying division reports an unusually large number of accepted surveys for the month of December. Over 400 plats of accepted work were filed in the drafting division, representing an acreage of 2,344,492 acres. This amount exceeds the output of any one month in the history of the division since a monthly account of progress was inaugurated. Considering the large number of absences usually occurring in December, this showing is regarded as exceptionally fine.

## NO INDISPENSABLES.

Several supervising officers have inquired as to what was expected of them in the way of making affidavits that the services of employees subject to draft are "indispensable." Without any intention of depreciating the high value of the work of our employees, invariably the answer has been that this office will make no such affidavits for anybody in its service.

## MORE ACRES IN CULTIVATION.

Hundreds of thousands of acres of land in the United States,





hitherto untilled, may be placed under cultivation during the year 1918. By direction of Secretary Lane, acting in response to a resolution of the Congress, a careful survey was made into the feasibility and practicability of putting into cultivation such parts of the public domain and Indian lands as might be suitable for the purpose. The results of the inquiry just received by the Secretary indicate that approximately 600,000 acres of land on various Reclamation Projects and an area of Indian lands almost as large are susceptible of cultivation.

It is not regarded as practicable, economical or wise to endeavor to secure crop production through governmental agencies on such of the public lands as yet remain unreserved. They are largely rough and mountainous and valuable chiefly for minerals or stock raising, or scattered tracts which can best be farmed by homesteaders.

About 100,000 acres of land on Reclamation Projects, not heretofore cultivated, and for which water will be available, may be placed in production during 1918. In addition there are approximately 500,000 acres in privately owned or homestead lands within Reclamation Projects susceptible of cultivation. A bill now is pending before Congress providing the money for the clearing, development and cropping of the lands, the funds appropriated to be reimbursable from rentals and other receipts.

Within the limits of the States of Arizona, Montana and Wyoming are 112,000 acres of irrigable and 50,000 acres of dry farming lands within the limits of Indian Reservations which, with reasonable funds, could be placed under cultivation. On other Indian Reservations a large acreage also could be made available. An appropriation of \$1,900,000 has been suggested to Congress for the purchase of seeds and equipment and to make arrangements for the cultivation of this land under the direction of Secretary Lane, who has recommended to Congress the enactment of measures providing for the development of the lands.

#### FIELD SERVICE.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Mr. U Dwight Avery, Carey Act Inspector in the Cheyenne, Wyoming, Field Division, to Miss Myra Katharine Graham of Greeley, Colorado, on December 6, 1917.

Congratulations "Dad!" Now can't you induce "dear E. O." to join the ranks of "just men made perfect?"

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Special Agent H. H. Mancha, one of the hearings officers in the San Francisco Field Division, who has been in Washington on leave of absence, left a few days ago to resume his duties at San Francisco.

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Special Agent T. A. Whelan, who is now on leave of absence from the Santa Fe Field Division, made a flying visit to Washington and left a few days ago to visit his old home in Jackson, Mississippi.

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Special Agent J. McG. Williamson was recently transferred to the San Francisco Field Division and assigned to duty as one of the hearings officers in the oil cases.

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Special Agent Roscoe C. Bangs, who has been on duty in the Cheyenne Field Division, is now temporarily in Washington.

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Assistant Chief of Field Service John T. Murphy has been on detail duty making investigations of certain matters pending in the Cheyenne, Wyoming, field division.

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Under authority given in the last appropriation act for the protection of public lands, timber, etc., a motor boat has been purchased for the use of the Alaskan Field Division.

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The United States Employees' Compensation Commission recently allowed \$35.00 a month to Mrs. Gus A. Lovegren and \$10.00 a month to Mr. Lovegren's mother. Timber Cruiser Gus A. Lovegren died as the result of injuries received in line of duty while working on the classification of the Oregon and California lands.

The Compensation Commission also made payment to Timber Cruiser Penegor of \$26.70 for injuries received in line of duty.

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Mr. Charles A. Brinkley, who was successively a member of the old Spokane and Portland Field Divisions during the period from about 1908 to 1911, has recently been commissioned as a Captain in the Quartermaster Corp of the National Army and assigned to duty at Omaha, Nebraska. After his resignation as a special agent and before his appointment to the army, Mr. Brinkley was engaged in the general practice of law at Seattle, Washington.

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Clarence M. Booth, who was formerly a member of the field force of the old Boise, Idaho, Division, and was for a time temporarily assigned





to the Portland Division, has recently been commissioned a Captain of Infantry in the National Army and assigned to duty at Camp Lewis, Washington. After resigning his position as a special agent and before being appointed to the army, Mr. Booth was engaged in the general practice of law at Twin Falls, Idaho.

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Mrs. C. R. Arundell, wife of the Chief of the Alaskan Field Division, is now in Portland en route to Alaska, having spent the summer in Vermont with relatives. She was formerly Grace Griswold, a stenographer at headquarters of the Portland Field Division, prior to that having served in the same capacity at Field division headquarters at Helena, Montana, and in the Forest Service at Washington, D. C.

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On December 8, 1917, Mr. John McPhaul, Superintendent of Sales of Public Lands, generally known in the West as Judge McPhaul, was a visitor at Portland, Oregon, having on said date conducted a public sale of timber lands in the former Siletz Indian Reservation, amounting to over \$60,000.00.

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Recently the United States District Court at Portland, Oregon, issued an order for the sale of about 17,785,000 feet of timber from 11 forty acre tracts near Marshfield, Oregon, in the Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant, the up-set price being fixed at \$33,507.50. The Chief of the Portland Field Division was named by the Court as Commissioner for the sale of this timber, and same is now being advertised, sealed bids to be received up to noon of December 26, 1917. It will be remembered that the lands in this grant are now in litigation, the Government having brought suit to recover title thereto, alleging that the grantee did not comply with the terms of the grant. This suit is now pending before the Supreme Court of the United States on appeal, and the proceeds from the sale of the above mentioned timber are to be deposited to await the outcome of said suit and to be then paid to the successful litigant.

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Messrs. Horace R. Burritt and Frank Farmer, Mineral Inspectors of the Portland Field Division, have been engaged since July last in making mineral examinations of unpatented lands in the Oregon and California Railroad Grant, title to which has been revested in the Government by decision of the Supreme Court of the United States and the Act of Congress of June 9, 1916. They had lands in eighty different townships of said grant for examination and the field work thereon will be completed during the month of December 1917.





It is expected that in June 1918 the new million dollar Post-office Building at Portland, Oregon, will be completed. It is understood that office quarters in said building will be assigned to the Portland Field Division. The quarters heretofore occupied in the Customs House by the Portland Field Division have been and are inadequate and the change will be much welcomed.

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Mr. W. B. Burt, Special Agent of the General Land Office employed as an expert on irrigation cases, reported for duty in the same capacity at the Salt Lake Field Division about September 1st last. Mr. Burt had been a member of the field force of the Portland Field Division since about the year 1910, having prior thereto been employed in the Bureau of Public Lands of the Philippine Islands, at Manila.

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Mr. William S. Towner, of New York, formerly a Special Agent in the Santa Fe Field Division has resigned, having been called to the colors under his enlistment with the Signal Reserve Corps. Mr. Towner is now stationed at Fort Pike, Arkansas.

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Mr. Herbert V. Betts, of Arkansas, formerly a Clerk, Stenographer and Typewriter in the headquarters office, Santa Fe Field Division, has resigned, having been called to the colors under his enlistment with the Signal Reserve Corps. Mr. Betts is now stationed at Fort Pike, Arkansas.

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Mr. Herbert W. MacFarren, formerly a Mineral Examiner with the Santa Fe Field Division, resigned some time since, went through the first officers' training camp at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., later was stationed with an Engineer Regiment at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., commissioned captain of engineers, and, the last we heard from "Mac," he was at Charlottesville, North Carolina. He may be "somewhere in France" ere this. All who know "Mac" wish him well and predict that in whatever position he may be found he will reflect credit upon himself and upon whatever service he may be connected with.

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Mr. Oscar C. Gibbs, of Maryland, several years ago employed as Special Agent in the, then, Twelfth Field Division, under then Chief of Field Division, Leroy O. Moore, went through the first officers' training camp at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry, and now is stationed at Camp Lewis, Wash. For several years Mr. Gibbs was District Attorney of Lake County, Oregon, and left his law practice at Lakeview to be with the first officers'





training camp. Mr. Gibbs is a brother to the Chief of Santa Fe Field Division.

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Mr. Thomas C. Collins, has entered the office at Headquarters, Santa Fe Field Division, as Clerk, Stenographer and Typewriter, by transfer from the Postoffice at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Mr. Burton R. Green, sometime since resigned from the position of Special Agent in the Santa Fe Field Division, to become private secretary to Senator A. A. Jones, of New Mexico.

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The Denver Field Division of the General Land Office completed on December 14 the reports on the examination of stock driveways in Colorado under the Act of December 29, 1916. The cattle growers' and wool growers' associations in this State made requests for the withdrawal of over 1,973,000 acres of land leading to the National Forests. Special Agent Charles F. Leuenberger and Mineral Inspector Charles L. Duer were engaged over two-thirds of the time from May 1 making these examinations. They went over more than 5,000 miles of contemplated trails, and examined from ten to sixty driveways in each general application. There were twenty of these applications made. A third of the recommendations of this division have already been acted upon by the Commissioner and the Secretary's office, and the withdrawals recommended have been promulgated.

After careful examination by these agents, nine-tenths of the lands applied for were eliminated. In no instance did the committee from the stock growers' and wool growers' associations, when they were in conference with our agents, object to the cutting down of the trails. Many of these committees baldly stated that they would like to have all the public lands withdrawn for range purposes. However, when they were given to understand that no withdrawals would be made except those which were actually needed, they all gracefully and smilingly gave in. A tabulation of the reports shows that of the acreage requested for withdrawal, 197,170 acres were recommended for driveways in the State of Colorado. Probably twenty-five per cent of this acreage was recommended on the request of the wool growers.

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Jennings D. McLeod, Timber Cruiser and Special Agent attached to the Denver Field Division, took leave of absence in August to go into the Fort Sheridan Officers' Training Camp, near Chicago. At the end of the three months' course he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, and is now stationed at Camp Kelly No. 1, near San Antonio, Texas.

1890-1891

1875

1890



McLeod took his first trip in an aeroplane Thursday, December 13, and scooted into the air 5,000 feet. In a letter to the headquarters of the Denver Field Division, he states that he felt mighty squeamish during the first two minutes. Thereafter all went well, and he stated he would have liked to remain up indefinitely. The earth "sure looks flat" from that height, he said. McLeod was an officer during the Spanish-American War, in a Kentucky regiment. Mrs. McLeod, during the absence of her husband, is engaged in Red Cross work in Tennessee.

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A curious report comes to the Denver Field Division's offices from western Colorado. A ranchman residing in the Paradox Valley, which is located in Colorado just to the east of La Salle Mountain in Utah, states that on a number of occasions, when he has been on the east slope of La Salle Mountain, looking to the southeast and across the carnotite fields of western Montrose County, a phenomenon like a perennial Aurora Borealis is visible, on the darkest nights, except that the illumination is close to the ground, or within a couple hundred feet of the ground, instead of far up in the heavens. This imaginative ranchman states that the glow is undoubtedly due to the emanations of the radium content of the thousands of tons of carnotite ore which still remain in the ground. He states emphatically that this is not a Munchausen tale, and that anyone desiring to verify the story may do so on any dark, still night by climbing the eastern slope of La Salle Mountain.

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#### SLOW LAWYERS IN RAPID CITY

Speaking of lawyers, classes and caste  
Persistent old timers who stick to the last,  
Who argue all day in courts of the law,  
Leave a checker game that ends in a draw,  
Gather up a crowd, Tom, Dick, Joe, Eddie and Lem,  
And hit the land office at four twenty P. M.

And the torture begins with questions like these:  
"Say, make me a map of the county, will you please?"  
And amongst the crowd is some dolled-up young "Peachers"  
Who came for the land "that you give to school teachers;"  
"Hold for me that eighty, right next to Jin Daw,  
"Till I can borrow ten dollars from my mother-in-law."

"Say, what kind of land is that? You've a bum lamp,  
"There's a T & S filing on it, why, that's all swamp!"  
A half hour is spent to make him understand,  
Though you recorded the filing, God made the land.  
"Don't let any contest be filed; I want to go away."  
"I've a long ways to go, can I get my receipt today?"





A lull for a moment till you can convince Ben  
That section thirteen does not join section ten.  
"My proof is set tomorrow, can I make it today?"  
"I have lived there continuously from April to May,  
"Was visiting relatives the rest of the year;  
"By reporting my absences, can I keep my land clear?"

"I want to pay taxes on section sixteen,  
"Well, grin, dang you, I know what I mean."  
"The description? Oh, it lies in an 'l'  
"The only level spot is where I dug the well."  
"You rejected my application? Because the paper was wrong?"  
"Bah, you have sold out to the cattlemen for honk-a-tong  
song."

Current work is lodged in a foam-ridden jam,  
You try to look pleasant when you want to say "d---n"  
With a last heroic effort you get out of the mix  
And start for your home at a quarter to six  
To search for asbestos epithets to sufficiently condemn  
The attorney who shows up at four twenty P. M.

#### SOLDIERS' ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS.

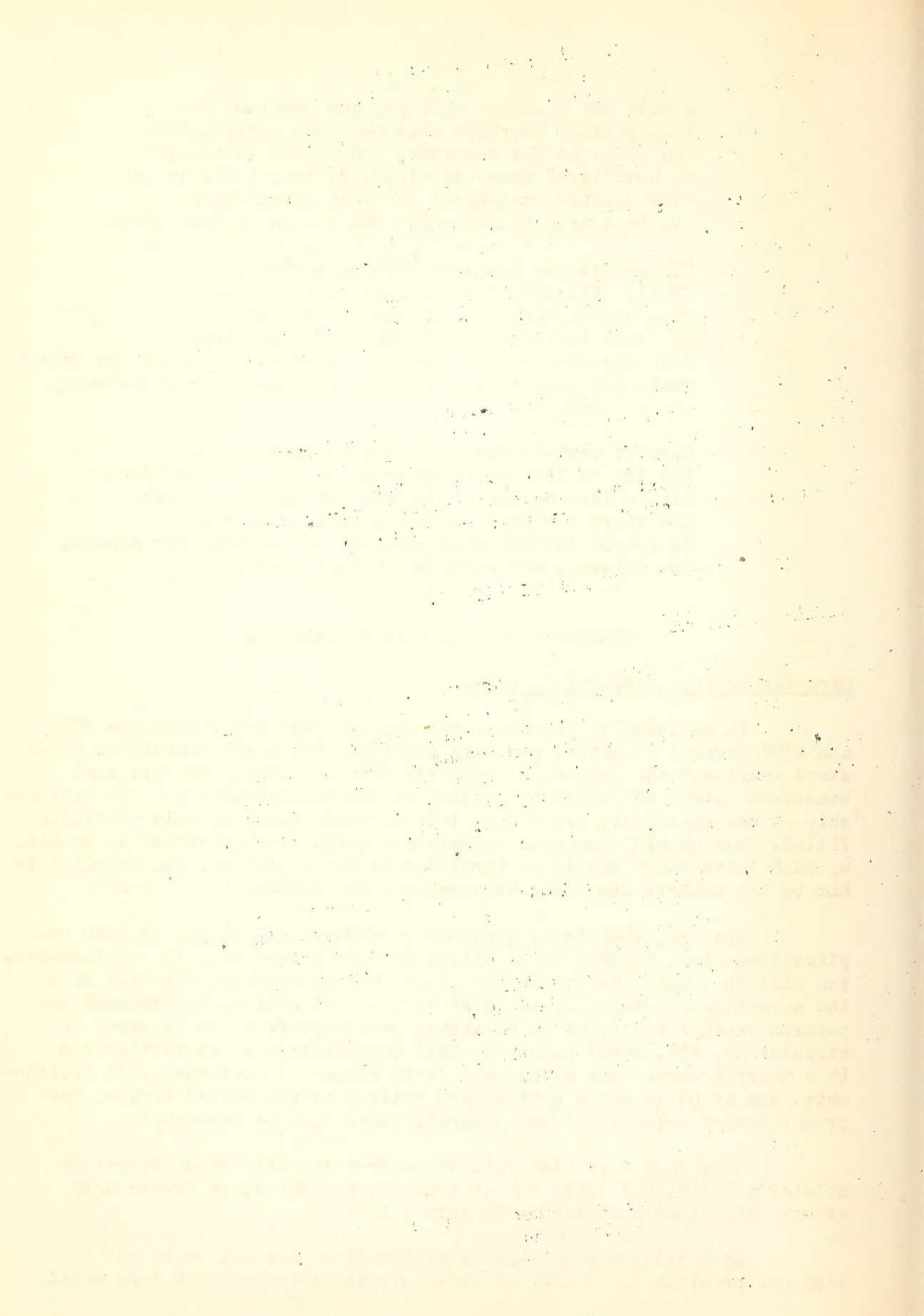
Circular Advice, December 7, 1917.

In numerous applications for making entry under sections 2306 and 2307 Revised Statutes, commonly known as "Soldiers' additional homestead entries," the spaces provided for data concerning the original homestead entry, the military service of the homesteader, and the citizenship of the applicant, are either left entirely blank or only partially filled, thus causing unnecessary work and delay in this office in looking up such facts which should be furnished by the applicant, and supplied to him by the dealers from whom he purchases the rights.

You are, therefore, directed to require all blanks in such applications (form 4-008a) to be filled in before accepting the application. You will then make the proper notations on your records, date and sign the certificate printed at the foot of the application, and forward the papers, whether the right be certified or uncertified, as directed in circular No. 429, dated August 5, 1915 (unpublished). An application by a married woman must allege the facts concerning her husband's citizenship, and if he is not a native-born citizen of the United States, the proper record evidence of his naturalization must be furnished.

Many registers also fail to observe the difference between a soldier's additional entry and an ordinary homestead, by erroneously issuing the final certificate on form 4-196.

As a soldier's additional application does not segregate the land nor prohibit the filing of other applications for such land until





after your allowance of the entry, pursuant to its acceptance by this office (see 37 L. D., 160), and the entry and final certificate bear the same date, you will, after collecting the fee and the original and final commissions and the government price for the excess area, if any, issue the final certificate on form 4-197, fill in the blank spaces provided for data concerning the original entry, and send the duplicate certificate to the claimant as notice to him of the date of your allowance of the entry. See note at the foot of form 4-197.

If you are not supplied with form 4-197, you should procure the same by requisition.

Very respectfully,

CLAY TALIMAN,

Commissioner.

In reply please refer to circular No. 577.

#### FIRST SALE OF TIMBER ON OREGON AND CALIFORNIA LANDS.

The Secretary of the Interior, September 15, 1917, issued instructions to this office in the matter of selling the timber from isolated tracts of land classified as timber lands lying within the former Oregon and California grant, in all cases where it is found that the timber on such tracts should be sold at an early date in order to obtain the estimated value of the timber.

The necessity for action of this kind is apparent, when it is understood that in many cases small bodies of these lands, classified as timber lands, are found practically separated from lands of a similar character owned by the United States, but in the immediate vicinity of timber lands in private ownership where logging operations are in progress. Inasmuch as the Oregon and California timber lands are for the most part extremely rough and rugged, if not actually mountainous in character, requiring large expenditures in the way of logging railroads, and similar equipment, to successfully cut and remove the timber, a sale of timber so situated cannot be advantageously made except to operators in the immediate vicinity, who are already provided with the proper equipment for handling the timber. If opportunities for such sales are allowed to pass, it might be many years before the Government would again have an opportunity to sell the timber at a fair estimate of its value. This situation, as well as the necessity of affording a supply of timber called for in our ship-building activities, led to the instructions as above noted, under which, the first sale occurred on the 3rd ultimo at Roseburg, Oregon, at which time the timber on 320 acres was sold at the appraised price.

A number of other applications of a similar character are now pending before the office or in the field, upon which action will soon be taken.





## ALASKA COAL LANDS.

Official announcement was made by Secretary Land December 11, that a new coal leasing block or tract has been created and offered for lease in the Matanuska Coal Field, Alaska. This block, designated as Unit No. 20, contains 760 acres of land, embracing parts of Sections 2, 3, 10, and 11, Township 19 North, Range 3 East, Seward Meridian. The land lies near the headwaters of Eska Creek and to the northeast of Unit No. 7. A branch line of the Government railroad has been constructed to the mine on No. 7, and consequently rail transportation facilities for shipping coal mined off the new unit are practically available at this time. The new unit has been designated upon recommendation of representatives of the Department who examined the land and who report that the coal measures found warrant the offering of the area as a coal mining proposition. The land had not been surveyed when the original units were offered for lease.

Under the order designating the new unit, applications for lease of the same will be received at the General Land Office from and after December 15, 1917, for a period of thirty days. All applications for lease that may be made in this period will then be advertised for an additional thirty days and award made thereafter by the Secretary of the Interior from the applications and proposals that have been submitted.

By the designation of this new unit the area of lands in the field now subject to lease is increased to 7,520 acres, divided into ten leasing units.

In the Matanuska field the Alaskan Engineering Commission is mining coal on Blocks 7 and 12 for the construction and operation of the Government railroad. About sixteen thousand tons of coal have thus far been mined from these units. The lessees of Blocks 2 and 3 started work on these tracts in May. They are reported to have run about six hundred feet of underground tunnels and drifts in the blocking out of a ten or twelve foot vein of coal. The lessees of Blocks 10 and 11, situated at Chicaloon, are at the present time taking in machinery and equipment with a view to active development on a large scale on this area.

It is believed that the coal mining operations now under way, together with the railroad facilities that are being provided, will further demonstrate the possibilities of supplying coal from this field for the use of the Navy and on the Pacific Coast. The Government railroad is now completed and able to handle tonnage from this field to Anchorage at tidewater. By next summer the railroad will also be able to haul tonnage to Seward, the coast terminus of the road.

Information relative to the lease of the Alaska coal lands may always be procured by addressing the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C.





## ALASKA'S CLIMATIC WONDERS.

A recent report of the survey of a farm-homestead, within seventy miles of the Arctic circle, situated between snowy peaks of the Crazy Mountains and saw-tooth heights of Dolomite range, shows how cruel nature sometimes smiles upon the adventurous settler, as evidence of what she can do when she will.

Six generous hot springs well forth in a cluster from the bed-rock, in a gulch at the foot of a treeless mountain, yielding a copious rivulet of pure healthful mountain water, which first comes from the volcanic caves below bearing a temperature of 138° F. to warm the rich alluvial soil, where the homesteader has been building, irrigating, draining, planting, sowing, reaping, and selling valuable food-stuff for years past. No submarine invention threatens, but subterranean waters bless all his labors. He claims 160 acres, which area is mostly subject to the mild influence favoring actual farming.

From the surveyor's field notes, verified by photoviews, the following abstract is made:

"The quantity and variety of produce from this claim are both surprising and excellent in quality. During my stay there (five days in August, 1917), the following vegetables were served, all of which were grown on the tract:

Beets, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, endive, horseradish, lettuce, onions, parsley, parsnips, peas, potatoes, rhubarb, rutabagas, tomatoes, and turnips; also cranberries, raspberries, service berries and wonder berries.

The following were also growing on the land at the same time: asparagus, barley, celery, corn, garlic, kale, kohl-rabi, leeks, mint, oats, radishes, sage, spinach and tobacco; all of which mature in the open air.

The output for 1916 was stated to me by the claimant to consist of the produce of the land, to supply all the neighboring mining camps up to thirty miles away, and even some of the river steamers on the Yukon, forty miles away, viz:

Beets one-half ton; cabbage four tons, carrots three and one-half tons; cauliflower one and one-half tons; celery two and one-half tons; parsnips three-quarters ton; onions three tons; potatoes twenty-five tons; rutabagas two and one-half tons; turnips one ton."

One of the photographs testifies to a flock of one hundred superior Plymouth Rock fowls.

It should be said that these springs are a single instance of





a number of similar phenomena heretofore reported, some of which are utilized with hotel and bathing privileges, but scattered hundreds of miles apart.

#### DREAMS, IDLE DREAMS.

Yesternight I sat and pondered, in my faded dressing gown, of the days when horse cars wandered through the main street of the town: Those were days of milk and honey, comfort reigned within our doors, and a very little money bought a thunderin sight of stores. In those times no one was planning for our wad with might and main, and the price of beans for canning didn't give a man a pain. Now all things are helter-skelter, grafters seize our hardearned dough; and the price we pay for shelter monthly fills our hearts with woe. When we go to market looking for a pound of tenderloin, or a dozen eggs for cooking, we must go well fixed with coin; for the price of pork and chickens travels upward day by day, while we wonder how the dickens we will keep the wolf away. One cold day last week I started out to buy some anthracite; yes I planned to have it carted to my home that very night. Ever since that day I've waited for a "carload on the way," but my coal is still belated while a blizzard holds full sway. While the paper gaily carols of the coal we're soon to burn, of the sugar, packed in barrels, waiting for the wheels to turn; everywhere in all the States, crooks are storing coal and vittles, holding out for higher rates. What's the use of longer talking? Little good can thus be gained; on our uppers we'll be walking, till the profiteer is chained. If the grafters we can humble and send up for quite a stay, then the price of food will tumble and we'll get three meals a day.





## MAJOR GENERAL LAFAYETTE

By the 4th section of the act of March 3, 1803 (2 Stat., 236), Congress authorized the Secretary of War to issue to Major General Lafayette land warrants for 11,520 acres of land, and by the 14th section of the act of March 27, 1804 (2 Stat., 303-305), General Lafayette was authorized to locate the warrants in what was then known as the Territory of Orleans.

The locations of these warrants were made soon after that time, and the 11,000 acres were located in townships 1, 2, and 3 S., range 7 and 8 E., in the parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, on the west bank of the Mississippi River. The 520 acre warrant was located in township 12 S., range 11 E., in the Southeastern District of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, being within the limits of the city of New Orleans. Patents were issued for the lands located by these warrants, in favor of General Lafayette, on January 25, 1810, April 27, 1810, March 25, 1815, and July 4, 1828.

It is incidentally known to this office that some of these lands were sold by General Lafayette, and it is quite possible that most, if not all, of them were disposed of by him during his lifetime, or by his heirs. The legal holders, or assignees, of three of the large warrants for 1,000 acres, which were located by General Lafayette, were authorized, by the act of February 26, 1845 (5 Stat., 729), to relocate the said warrants; and while an effort was made to make the relocation, it does not appear to have been perfected.

Some of these lands were involved in litigation, and it will be seen, by reference to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, 18 Howard, page 197, in the case of the heirs of General Lafayette vs. Kenton et al., and against Carter et al., that the title of General Lafayette failed, as to a portion of the 520 acres located at or near the city of New Orleans.

General Lafayette visited this county in 1824, and Congress, by the act of December 28, 1824 (6 Stat., 320), granted to him, in addition to the sum of \$200,000, one entire township of land to be located under the authority of the President, upon any of the unappropriated public lands of the United States. This location was allowed in what was known as West Florida, and embraced township 1 N., range 1 E., containing 23,028.60 acres, covering a part of what is now the City of Tallahassee, Florida. A patent was issued for this land, on July 4, 1825, and was delivered to General Lafayette in person by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.





## SOME FACTS REGARDING SOLDIERS' ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

From the date of the original act of April 4, 1872 (17 Stat., 49), which established the soldier's additional homestead right, up to the date of the Supreme Court decision May 18, 1896, in the case of Webster vs. Luther (163 U. S., 331), the right was held to be personal and not subject to sale, assignment or transfer and was held to apply only to entries which had been perfected and not to entries which had either been relinquished or abandoned. The Supreme Court decision holding that the right is assignable without restriction, regardless of whether the original homestead entry was perfected or abandoned, changed the prior rulings of the Department and placed the soldier's additional right on the same basis as scrip.

Enterprising scrip dealers at once got busy and bought such rights as were based on homestead entries, which were not perfected, but were either relinquished or abandoned. From the year 1897 to the year 1903 there were over 12,000 such applications filed. From 1904 to 1910 the number of applications gradually decreased and it was predicted by scrip dealers and others that the soldier's additional business would be wound up before 1915. This prediction did not, however, come true, for during the year ending June 30, 1916, there were received 636 new cases involving 678 soldier's additional rights. During the year ending June 30, 1917, there were received 674 cases involving 933 such rights.

It is safe to state that no one act upon the statute books of the United States has been the subject of more various, changing and diversified decisions than sections 2306 and 2307 of the Revised Statutes governing soldiers' additional rights. On February 15, 1917, the Secretary of the Interior made an administrative ruling which illustrates the above statement. The following quotation from said ruling is pertinent:

"The Land Department has not, since the decision in Webster v. Luther, given a construction to the law that confines the benefit of these sections to the parties expressly enumerated. It has assumed that upon the failure of all the beneficiaries to appropriate the right, the right passed by descent to others. It has held that where the widow and the minor orphan children failed to avail themselves of the right left unexercised by the soldier, the right reverted to the latter's estate and became an asset thereof. More lately it has held that this is not so; that the right passes by devolution to the minor children and stops





there, becoming an asset of their estate, subject to administration and to sale by an administrator. Soldier's additional rights have been sold by administrators expressly appointed for that purpose, and at the instance of parties whose business it is to speculate in the rights. This has happened even where the soldier, or the minor child, left no heirs, the theory of the application for administration being that the State had an interest by escheat. Administrators have sold these rights to the party active in procuring administration for relatively trivial sums, no one but the assignee deriving any substantial benefit.

The department is convinced that it was never in the mind of Congress that these rights should pass beyond the limits indicated in the sections. Out of gratitude to the soldier, Congress desired to confer upon him personally a material benefit; or if he died before gaining that benefit, upon those dependent upon him - his widow or his minor orphan children; not upon his adult children, not upon collateral heirs, and certainly not, in the absence of any heir, upon some State or foreign Government.

Overruling then all decisions or expressions in decisions in so far as they may be in conflict herewith, the department construes the act to mean that the soldier's additional right may be used (1) by the soldier in his lifetime either directly by entering the land or indirectly; in his lifetime, by conveying his right to entry to an assignee; or (2), similarly by the widow, while her status as widow of the soldier continued; or (3), similarly, in the absence of appropriation by the soldier or his widow, by the minor orphan children, during their minority, acting through their lawful guardian. If this right is not exercised in the manner indicated and within the term during which it was appropriable, the right lapses and ceases to exist. Unused, it never becomes an asset of the estate of the soldier, widow, or child".

This ruling was expressly made to be not retroactive. A brief has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the Interior concerning said ruling requesting its revocation and rescission.

#### LAND OFFICE NOTES

##### Stock Driveways

Secretary Lane, on December 1st, temporarily withdrew 20,280 acres in southern Idaho under section ten of the act of December 29, 1916 (39 Stat., 862), pending





determination as to the necessity and advisability of reserving the lands for stock driveway purposes, and on December 15 reserved certain areas as stock driveways in the southeastern part of New Mexico in western Eddy county, such driveways having an aggregate area of 34,730 acres.

#### Opening of former National Forest Lands

Upon the recommendation of Secretaries Lane and Houston, the President has recently signed proclamations excluding large areas from the Manzano National Forest, in Arizona and New Mexico, and from the Sequoia National Forest in eastern California.

The proclamation of November 30 excluding lands from the Manzano National Forest reserves a portion of the excluded area in New Mexico as an addition to the Zuni Indian Reservation and provides for the restoration of the public lands subject to disposition in the remaining excluded areas to homestead entry at and after 9 o'clock a.m. February 11, and to settlement and other disposition on and after February 18. About 96,570 acres in scattered area in central and western New Mexico and about 27,000 acres in northeastern Arizona will be restored under this proclamation. The lands are reported by the Forest Service to be generally grazing lands.

The public lands in the areas excluded from the Sequoia National Forest by proclamation of December 5, amounting to about 303,000 acres, are restored thereby to homestead entry on and after February 14 and to settlement and other disposition on February 21, 1918. The excluded areas lie along the present eastern, southern and western boundaries of the Forest and are reported to be generally sage brush foot-hills with some 20,000 acres agricultural and the rest grazing lands.

#### Coal Classifications.

During the month of November nearly a million acres of land were classified as to the coal character. This land lies in six different States: Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah and Washington. A little more than 4,400 acres were classified as non-coal and more than 900,000 acres as coal land. The value of this land as fixed by the appraisement, is approximately \$18,500,000.

#### Enlarged Homestead Lands Designated.

In November, the following lands were designated under the enlarged Homestead Act as being non-irrigable and





not containing such a supply of water suitable for domestic purposes and would render residence reasonably possible.

Idaho: Ada County, 950 acres; Canyon County, 890 acres; Elmore County, 1,740 acres.

Utah: Sanpete County, 2,200 acres, Uinta County, 720 acres; Washington County, 1,320 acres; and small areas in Iron, Juab, Kane, Millard and Utah Counties.

These lands are all subject to entry without the usual requirements as to residence but certain requirements as to cultivation are made.

#### Repayment.

Elko desert entry 01926 was canceled for failure to submit first annual proof, and application was thereupon made for repayment, alleging that the entry was erroneously allowed for the reason that the land was not irrigable. The Department denied the application September 29, 1917, holding:

"This entry failed through no fault on the part of the Government. It was properly allowed. The error on the part of entrywoman was one of judgment as to the possibility of irrigation of the land. It is provided in the act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1096), under which this entry was allowed, that if any party shall fail during any year to file the testimony required as to expenditures for irrigation and reclamation, the land shall revert to the United States and the advance payment of 25¢ an acre be forfeited. The entrywoman failed to file first annual proof, and the statutory provision above set forth is conclusive as to her right to receive repayment. No other question need be considered. The decision appealed from is affirmed."

#### Town Sites and Town Lot Sales.

November 3, 1917, a sale of lots in Newell Town Site, in the Bellefourche Irrigation Project, South Dakota, took place, but the details thereof were not available on the date of the Bulletin for November. Since then a report has been received from which it appears that forty-three lots were sold for \$6,210.00.

A public sale of lots in D'Aste, Pablo and Tabor Town Sites, in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana





was held at D'Aste, on November 15, 1917, and adjourned to Missoula, Montana, where a few lots were sold. In the Town Site of D'Aste, fortyone lots were sold for \$647.00. In the Townsite of Tabor, four lots were sold for \$222.00, and in the Town Site of Pablo, eight lots were sold for \$666.00.

A sale of town lots in the first addition to Wolf Point, was held at said town, on November 15, which resulted in the sale of 180 lots for \$15,745.00.

December 1, a sale of town lots was held at Bowdoin Town Site, in the Milk River Irrigation Project, Montana, at which 131 lots were sold for \$40,165.00.

As evidence of the popularity of lots in Government town sites, it may be stated that within the six or eight weeks prior to December 1, 625 town lot entries and 1036 memorandum certificates of sale of such lots were received. The sale prices range from \$20 to \$500 per lot, with a few sales above and below these figures.

A sale of lots was held at Parshall, in the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, in November, 1916, on the installment plan, the first deferred installment falling due in November, 1917. Application was made for an extension of time on said payments falling due in November. By departmental decision of December 5, 1917, the application for extension of time for one year in which to pay the 1917 installment, was granted upon the condition that interest at the rate of five per cent per annum on said deferred payment be paid in advance.

On December 15, 1917, the Secretary of the Interior amended Circular No. 491, relating to the acquisition of title to public lands in the Territory of Alaska, so as to permit the survey and assessment of lots occupied by Indians or native Alaskans in townsites and to provide for the deeding of such lots to them, where they are citizens under the provisions of Sec. 6, Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat., 388), in the same manner as white citizens.

This action was brought about by reason of the application of Louis Shotridge, a full blood native Indian of Alaska, of the Tlingit Tribe of the Chilkats, who occupied an improved lot in Haines Townsite. Shotridge furnishes a grand example to white persons as well as Indians, of what industry and a will to do may accomplish, and his influence and that of others who have adopted the habits of civilized life can but lend encouragement to other Indians to become citizens and so take their places along side of white citizens.





Mr. Shotridge received his first instruction in English under a private tutor in Los Angeles, in 1906, after which he attended the Los Angeles High School for a part of a year, and Woodbury Business College for one term. He was a special student in the University of Pennsylvania three years, 1912 to 1915, since which time he has been employed by the University in ethnological and other research work among the Indians of southeastern Alaska.

Allotments to Indians on the Blackfeet  
Indian Reservation, Montana.

A schedule of approximately 2,600 allotments to Indians on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana, was approved, with certain exceptions, by the Department on July 24, 1917, and is now being examined in this office with a view to issuance of trust patents thereon. The allotments are permitted to embrace parts of 40-acre legal subdivisions. These minor subdivisions are described as follows: A 40-acre tract may be described as the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; a 10-acre tract as the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre tract as the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; etc.

Under date of September 30, 1916, this office took up with the Department the question of requiring allotments, with certain exceptions, to conform to 40-acre legal subdivisions. In considering the matter the Department under date of December 2, 1916 (D. 40644) stated:

"While recognizing that there is some merit in your presentation of the matter, it is not deemed advisable at this time to attempt any material changes in the present practice of describing lands covered by Indian reservation allotments, and this primarily for the reason that such allotments have practically all been completed."

Payments for Fort Peck Indian Lands, Montana.

Under date of November 24, 1917, the Department approved instructions directing that no adverse action be taken on any entry within the former Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana, for failure of the entryman to make payment of principal due on or before November 1, 1917, until Congress has had full opportunity to act, provided the entryman makes the interest payments required by departmental regulations dated April 13, 1917 (Circular No. 544).





The instructions also direct that where the payments become due subsequent to November 1, 1917, the entryman must pay interest on the one-half of any instalment which becomes due, as required by said departmental regulations; and that upon the payment of such interest further action in the matter will be deferred until Congress has had full opportunity to act.

The Department stated in the said instructions that the said action was taken because it appeared that many entrymen on the reservation would be unable to meet the payments when they became due because of a lack of sufficient rainfall on the reservation during the year 1917, and for other reasons.

#### Stock Raising Homesteads on Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian Lands

This office recently furnished the United States Geological Survey information relative to unappropriated lands in the former Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian Reservations, North and South Dakota. The Survey, acknowledging receipt of the information, under date of December 10, 1917, stated:

"The diagrams furnished will afford an indication of the lands which should be classified under the stock-raising homestead act and it is anticipated that this work will be done during the next field season."

#### Mining Claims in Alaska

The General Land Office has expressed the opinion that the joint resolution, approved October 5, 1917, to suspend the requirements of annual assessment work on mining claims during the years 1917 and 1918, is applicable to such claims in Alaska.

Some question having arisen as to the effect this law has where a State or Territorial law requires annual expenditures, it may be stated that section 2322, U. S. Revised Statutes, provides for the exclusive right of possession of mining claims, so long as the locators comply with the laws of the United States, and with State, Territorial and local regulations not in conflict with the laws of the United States.

It follows that the laws of the United States govern as to the right of possession of mining claims, and any State





or Territorial law in conflict therewith must yield. See Royston v. Miller, et al. (76 Fed., 50), and De Lamar's Nevada Gold Mining Co. v. Nesbitt (177 U. S., 523).

EXECUTION OF AFFIDAVITS BEFORE COMMANDING OFFICER  
ACT OF OCTOBER 6, 1917.

The act of October 6, 1917 (Public No. 71) provides as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That during the continuance of the present war with Germany, and until his discharge from service, any man serving in the armed forces of the United States who, prior to the beginning of his services, was a settler, an applicant, or entryman under the land laws of the United States, or who has, prior to enlistment, filed a contest with the view of exercising preference right of entry therefor, may make any affidavit required by law or regulation of the department, affecting such application, entry, or contest, or necessary to the making of entry in the case of the successful termination of such contest awarding him preference right of entry, before his commanding officer as provided in section twenty-two hundred and ninety-three of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which affidavits shall be as binding in law and with like penalties as if taken before the Register of the United States Land Office.

Instructions under this act have received the approval of the Department, and are promulgated in circular No. 573, under date of November 19, 1917.

STOCK-RAISING DESIGNATIONS.

The thousands of applicants awaiting action upon their petitions under the Stock-raising Homestead Act of December 29, 1916, will be encouraged to hear that the Geological Survey has succeeded in completing the necessary preliminary work and recommended for designation under that Act approximately 36,953 acres in the Minot and Williston districts, North Dakota. This designation has been approved by First Assistant Secretary Vogelsang and will become effective January 10, 1918. On that date, or as soon thereafter as the pressure of business will permit, the seventy-four





applications involved will be taken up for consideration by the local officers and allowed, in the absence of other objection, or other appropriate action taken.

Designation of 74,806 acres in Dickinson and Williston land districts, North Dakota, was approved by the Department December 14, 1917, to become effective February 11, 1918. This involves 129 applications.

Considering the vast amount of work entailed and the fact that no funds were available therefor prior to July 1st of this year, the Geological Survey is to be congratulated upon the speedy action on the above petitions. Other designations are in various stages of completion and will follow from time to time.

#### DECLARATION OF INTENTION BY ALIEN ENEMY RIGHT TO ACQUIRE PUBLIC LANDS

The Bulletin gives in its entirety the timely decision of First Assistant Secretary Vogelsang, rendered December 20, 1917, on the status of alien enemies under the public land laws.

I have your letter of December 12, 1917, requesting instructions as to the rights of alien enemies who have declared their intention to become citizens, with reference to land entries under the laws of this country which authorize persons who have declared their intention to become citizens to make such entries.

Section 2289 Revised Statutes provides that

"Every person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of the United States, or who has filed his declaration of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization laws, shall be entitled to make homestead entry."

Section 2291 Revised Statutes provides for the submission of final proof on homestead entries and for issuance of patents to the beneficiaries specified therein "if at that time citizens of the United States."

The act of March 3, 1877 (19 Stat., 377), amended by the act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1096), allows desert land entry to be made by "any citizen of the United States, or any person of requisite age, who may be entitled to become a citizen, and who has filed his declaration to become such'." Such entryman cannot however, obtain a patent until he has become a citizen of the United States.





The act of June 3, 1878 (20 Stat., 89), commonly known as the timber and stone law, provides that lands chiefly valuable for timber or stone may be sold to citizens of the United States, or persons who have declared their intentions to become such.

Section 2319 Revised Statutes provides for the occupation and purchase of mineral land "by citizens of the United States and those who have declared their intention to become such.

The instructions of January 11, 1915 (43 L. D. 485), governing the sale of isolated tracts under section 2455 Revised Statutes, and amendatory laws, provide that persons who have declared their intention to become citizens may make such purchase.

Section 2171 Revised Statutes provides in part that

No alien who is a native citizen or subject, or a denizen of any country, state, or sovereignty with which the United States are at war, at the time of his application, shall be then admitted to become a citizen of the United States.

It would appear that under existing laws an alien enemy who has declared his intention to become a citizen and who is otherwise qualified, may be allowed to make a homestead entry, timber or stone entry, mineral entry, or purchase under the isolated tract law. No final homestead entry by such person may be allowed until completion of citizenship. Therefore, where final proof is offered on such entry, it should be suspended until such time as citizenship of the entryman shall have been obtained unless in the meantime the objection shall have been removed by remedial legislation.

As to desert-land entry, it appears that an alien enemy, although he has declared his intention to become a citizen, may not be permitted to make such entry, because under present conditions he is not eligible for citizenship. This appears to be an anomaly differing from all other land laws, but nevertheless existing law must be administered as found so long as it remains unchanged. Existing desert land entries properly allowed should be permitted to stand and when final proofs are submitted they should





be suspended as in the case of homestead final proofs  
by alien enemies who have declared their intention  
to become citizens, but who have not completed citizen-  
ship

### THE COMMISSIONER'S DREAM.

The letters, cases, bills, and claims  
Upon my desk to sign  
Seemed threaded to a list of names  
Of fellows down the line,  
And each one seemed to question me -  
To argue pro and con:  
"Do you do more or less than we?"  
I said: "Work on! work on!"

A plat lay there before my eyes;  
I dipt my pen to sign,  
When, lo, before me seemed to rise  
The men out on the line -  
Surveyors, transitmen, and all -  
The wole force moved as one:  
"Who works the more?" they seemed to call.  
I cried, "Chain on! chain on!"

And as I dipt my pen again  
A draftsman seemed to stand  
And ask for near a hundred men:  
"Do we not have a hand  
In making ready for your name  
What you could not have done?  
Are we not partners in this game?" -  
I stormed: "Draft on! draft on!"

Then started from a long review, -  
A case long drawn, hard fought -  
The agents, miners - cruisers, too -  
Who seemed to say: "We've thought  
That our names ought to get in this,  
For we the case have won!"  
Between my teeth I could but hiss:  
"Search on! cruise on! write on!"

A fifty - thousand - dollar claim  
(Or maybe an account),  
And after that another came  
For some such large amount.  
But ere the first accountant rose  
To plead their case as won  
I cred, "Sit down! - we'll come to blows!  
Check on! check on! check on!"





And then, methought, a thousand men  
And women none can say -  
From local office ten on ten,  
From field a massed array,  
Nor let me ask what would they have -  
They answered, all as one:  
"We'll do the work - be you our slave -  
Sign on! sign on! sign on!"

#### CANCELLATION OF PATENT-STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.

An interesting decision has been rendered quite recently by United States District Judge Wolverton in a suit instituted by the Government to cancel the patent: issued to Daniel H. Brumbaugh for a timber and stone entry on which he secured patent and shortly thereafter transferred the land to the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company. The Government's contention was that the entry was not made for Brumbaugh's own use and benefit but under an understanding with the timber operators to convey the land to them when the patent was secured from the Government.

The defense of the company was that no contract had been entered into and that the statute of limitations had run against the institution of the action. The court, however, found that there was an understanding between Brumbaugh and John F. Kelly that the entry would be made and the land after patent transferred to the lumber company. The points of general interest to the service in the court's decision are that, although the patent issued in 1904 and suit was not begun until 1910, yet the Government was not barred, because the fraud was not discovered until the year 1910 and suit was brought within six years from that time, or to put it differently, the court in effect held on this point that he who has been defrauded is not bound to commence suit on account of the fraud until he has learned that he has been defrauded. The further point of interest is that the court holds a failure to record the deed from Brumbaugh for over three years was an indication of an attempt to conceal the fraud committed.

#### RESTORATION OF COAL LANDS.

Secretary of the Interior Lane announces the approval by the President of the restoration of more than a quarter of a million acres of withdrawn coal land in the eastern part of Montana and the southwestern part of North Dakota.





The land was withdrawn because reports from various sources indicated that deposits of lignite were present in this part of the country. Government geologists who have been working in Montana and North Dakota have proved that these lands, involving 88,987 acres in Montana and 184,912 acres in North Dakota, are a part of the large lignite field in Montana and North Dakota and are valuable as a source of lignite coal. The coal classification work in this part of the country, carried on by the Department of the Interior through the Geological Survey during the period 1910 to 1916, has developed the fact that all of the lands listed in the two orders, Montana No. 66 and North Dakota No. 23, are underlain by one or more beds of lignite. Coal lands adjacent to this area on the north, east, and south, have been classified from time to time and restored to entry and purchase under the coal land laws in accordance with the usual procedure.

The withdrawn land has been classified as coal land at the minimum price, and the revocation of the withdrawal by the President restores the land to coal entry, and makes a large area in these two States available to those parties who may wish to open coal mines in order to relieve the shortage of coal.

#### COOS BAY WAGON ROAD LANDS

By the act of March 3, 1869 (15 Stat., 340), a grant of lands was made to the State of Oregon to aid in the construction of a military wagon road from Coos Bay to Roseburg, Oregon. This grant was conferred by the State upon the Coos Bay Wagon Road Company.

Section one of the granting act contains the following proviso:

"Provided further, that the grant of lands hereby made shall be upon the condition that the lands shall be sold to any one person only in quantities not greater than one-quarter section and for a price not exceeding \$2.50 per acre."

Under the authority of joint resolution, dated April 30, 1908 (35 Stat., 571), suit was instituted by the Attorney General against the Southern Oregon Company as the successor in interest, to secure a forfeiture of the grant as to about 96,000 acres of land disposed of in violation of the proviso to section one, above quoted. A decision was rendered in said case by the United States District Court





on July 15, 1915, favorable to the United States, along the lines of the decision of the United States Supreme Court, dated June 21, 1915 (238 U. S. 393), in the suit instituted against the Oregon and California Railroad Company. On appeal, the decision of the lower court was affirmed by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on February 13, 1917 (241 Fed. 16). On August 31, 1917, the Attorney General reported that an appeal had been taken to the United States Supreme Court, where the case is now pending.

In the event that the suit finally terminates in favor of the United States, it is probable that legislation will be required for the disposition of said lands similar to the act of June 9, 1916 (39 Stat., 218), providing for the disposition of the Oregon and California Railroad lands. Pending final determination of the suit, however, the lands will not be subject to settlement, entry or the acquisition of any rights under the public land laws of the United States.

#### FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE

##### Portland

You tell Vassar that under recent holdings commutation of a homestead entry is not limited to the holder of a commuter's railway ticket. A corroborated affidavit as to the reasons that compelled the homesteader to live on the land will be accepted, where good faith is otherwise apparent.

##### Great Falls

If a homesteader gets a patent through misrepresentation, and after the statute of limitation has run, offers to surrender the title because the Lord "has saved his soul", the proposition must be declined for two reasons. (1) The Lord might change His mind and the patentee in that case would come back with a plea of failure of consideration. (2) the right of the patentee's heirs, in case of his death, to set up want of consideration.

##### From Somewhere In France.

Purchase of bonds, contributions to the Red Cross, conscientious work in the Departmental offices at Washington, or in various capacities 3500 miles away from home, all contribute to the success of our country in waging this war to a successful termination. So tell the "boys" at the office that they are doing as much for Uncle Sam there as I am here.





We are all engaged in a common cause, and knowing the Land Office force, I feel confident that their efforts and sacrifices will be as productive of good results as those we are called upon to make here.





## OUR WAR AND THE RED CROSS

This war means sacrifice - sacrifice for all of us in one way or another - but we have never enlisted in a worthier cause, nor have we ever had more at stake.

Our people have made generous response to every appeal that has been made to them, and they will not fail to answer the call that is now being made by the Red Cross, for there is no work more necessary to the successful prosecution of the war than that which the Red Cross is doing.

-- Franklin K. Lane.

## THE RED CROSS IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Doing its bit in behalf of the American Red Cross and responding to the proclamation of President Wilson, inviting ten million Americans to join that organization during the week ending Christmas eve, the General Land Office comes forward with a membership enrollment of more than ninety percent of its force on duty in Washington during that period. Many of the divisions of the office came "over the top" with every man and woman enrolled. The General Land Office believes as President Wilson has said that "Red Cross membership is the Christmas Spirit in terms of action" and "a pledge of support to our cause and the world's weal".





The following members of the General Land Office Service are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

#### GENERAL LAND OFFICE

America, Louis L.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.
Bartley, Searcy	Enlisted in the Navy
Clarke, Francis J.	Sergeant, Medical Corps, France.
Binley, Walter S.	2d Lt. Depot Quartermaster, Phila.
Colburn, Alvin	Capt. 9th Inf. Am. Ex. Force, France.
Connelly, Francis J.	1st Lt. Aviation Corps, Toronto, Canada.
Crawford, Wm. A.	Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force, France.
Dalton, Richard H.	Field Clerk, Expeditionary Force, France.
Dinan, Henry K.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.
Farrell, Leo T.	Private, American Base Unit, Wash. D.C.
Fenn, Stanley W.	Clerk, Aviation Corps.
Hathaway, Alvin	Capt. D.C.N.G. Camp Anniston, Ala.
Hedges, Floyd E.	Corporal Clerk, Am. Ex. Force, France.
Hemmick, Frank S.	2d Lt. Officers Training Camp, Ft. Myer, Va.
Kays, Harry L.	2d Lt. D.C.N.G. Camp Anniston, Ala.
Lakenan, A. C.	Corporal Clerk, Amer. Ex. Force, France.
Mullady, C. C.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.
Hamilton, James Y.	Capt. Q.M.R.C. Washington, D.C.
Pendall, Elmer	2d Lt. Officers Training Camp, Ft. Myer, Va.
Sullivan, W.M.E.	2d Lt. 6th Reg. Inf. U.S.A. Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga.
Ritenour, W.H.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves. Accidentally killed in line of duty.
O'Leary, Arthur A.	Lab. Asst. Medical Corps, Washington, D.C.
Shaver, Charles W.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.
Simonton, F.B.J.	Private, Camp Meade, Admiral, Maryland.
Touhy, Thomas B.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.

#### OFFICES U.S. SURVEYORS GENERAL

Ames, Edward R.	Drafted.
Bedell, Archer W.	1st. Lt. N.M.N.G., Santa Vista, California.
Fisk, Sherman	Arizona National Guard
Ingalls, Walter S.	2d Lt. Co. I, 1st Arizona Infantry.
King, Norman L.	Maj. N.M.N.G., Santa Vista, California.
Spear, Hiram C.	Officers Training Camp, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.





## LOCAL LAND OFFICES

Allen, Kent	Private, Camp Lewis, American Lake, Wash.
Golden, John P.	Officers Training Camp, Ft. Leavenworth, Ka.
Honan, John J.	Officers Training Camp, Presidio, Calif.
Kriegh, McKinley W.	25th Railway Engineers, U.S.A.
O'Leary, William	Lt. N.D. National Guard

## FIELD SURVEYING SERVICE

Bradford, A.J.	2d Lt. Regular Army, Vancouver, Wash.
Campbell, Geo. R.	Capt. Engr. Officers Reserve Corps, Olympia, Washington.
Collins, John G.	2d Lt. E.O.R.C. American Lake, Wash.
Cronyn, Theodore	Private, 23d Engrs. Co. A, Camp Meade, Md.
Harshbarger, Eugene	2d Lt. E.O.R.C., etc., Ft. Leavenworth, Ka.
Hemphill, Wm. L.	Capt. Artillery, Presidio, San Fran. Calif.
Horton, A. C., Jr.	1st Lt. Engr. Officers Res. Corps, Phoenix, Ariz.
Hooper, James C.	Officers Training Camp, San Francisco, Calif.
Johnson, Carl E.	Artillery, Neligh, Nebraska.
Matthews, Theo. B.	1st Lt. E.O.R.S. Ardmore, Okla.
Nash, Wm. L.	Officers Training Camp, Leon Springs, Texas.
Perkins, Basil C.	23d Engrs. Camp Meade, Maryland.
Pinkham, Louis H.	2d Officers Training Camp, San Fran. Calif.
Pray, Winfred A.	Capt. of Artillery, Fernley, Nevada.
Richardson, G.H.	Capt. E.O.R.S. Boise, Idaho.
Ross, Otis	2d Lt. Q.M.R.C. Presidio, San Fran. Calif.
Sawhill, Donald	Corporal, Co. I, 362 Reg. Inf. Camp Lewis, Wash.
Shapcott, W.G.	Capt. Artillery, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Streit, C.K.	8th Reserve Engrs. American Lake, Wash.
Walters, S. Frank	Drafted.

## FIELD SERVICE

Armstrong, G.L.	Officers Training Camp, Sheridan, Ill.
Betts, H.V.	Signal R.C., 312th Battalion, Ft. Pike, Ark.
Holley, R.A.	Officers Training Camp, San Francisco, Calif.
McFarren, H.W.	Capt. E.O.R.C. 116th Engrs. Camp Green, N.C.
McLeod, J.D.	2d Lt. Camp Upton, Yaphank, L.I.
Presmont, A.N.	Officers Training Camp, Niagara, N.Y.
Rush, Clifford A.	2d Lt. Aviation Section, Signal Corps, San Antonio, Texas.
Towner, W.S.	Signal R.C. 312th Battalion, Ft. Pike, Ark.





All officers are urgently requested to advise the "Land Service Bulletin" as to all employees in their respective offices who become separated from the General Land Office Service through entrance into the Army or Navy, giving the rank of each, the unit in the Army to which they are assigned and military or naval address, if possible. This information is desired in order that the HONOR ROLL may be as complete as possible.

#### AT HOME AND ABROAD

Captain Jay Turley, Engineer Officers Reserve Corps, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, who, for a number of years, was a United States surveyor and executed many surveys in Idaho and New Mexico, was a recent visitor at the General Land Office.

At the St. Louis World's Fair in 1903 and the Portland Fair in 1905 in the pictures exhibited of our surveying activities, Captain Turley stood for the typical man of the service. He is six feet six inches tall and weighs over two hundred pounds. Captain Turley has been selected for special staff service in France and is en route. We wish him a safe voyage and predict for him a fine military record.

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Mr. Eric Lyders at one time special agent in our service and Chief of the San Francisco Field Division, but now Lieut. Lyders of the Navy, has been in the city for a short time, but is again on sea duty.

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From the Roswell Record of the 17th ult., we note the marriage, at Kansas City, Missouri, of Mr. Leroy O. Moore and Miss Letha Maddox of Roswell, New Mexico. Mr. Moore was for many years actively identified with our Field Service, and is now a practicing lawyer at Albuquerque.

#### TELL THE BULLETIN.

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs, in the public land service, which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin." All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





# LAND SERVICE BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Vol. 1.

February 1, 1918.

No. 12.

### THE GENERAL LEASING BILL.

By far the most important land legislation now before Congress is what is known as the General Leasing Bill (S. 2812) which passed the Senate on January 7. While bills of similar purport have passed the House twice, this is the first time it has passed the Senate. The Bill as it passed the Senate applies to coal, oil and gas, phosphate and sodium. The importance of the bill lies in the fact that if finally enacted into law it will mark a wide departure from the policy heretofore followed with respect to the public mineral lands, in that instead of transferring these natural resources to private ownership and control, the Government will retain the title and more or less control through leases, and the Federal Government and the States will receive a regular income from the production of the minerals under lease. The legislation is also important in that it constitutes the much discussed "future legislation," in aid of which many extensive withdrawals of public mineral lands have been made; consequently it will doubtless result in renewed activity in the development and production of the minerals affected. For this reason, in view of the heavy demand for coal and oil, the bill is considered essentially a war measure, as well as the general future policy of the Government.

The bill was the subject of extended debate in the Senate and passed by a vote of 37 to 32. The opposition included those of widely divergent views, from those who were against any sort of leasing system or retention of title by the Federal Government at all to those who favored absolute and complete Government ownership and operation. As was to be expected, much of the discussion centered around the so-called





"relief" provisions for existing oil land claimants. One interesting feature was that for two or three days before the bill was to come to a vote, representatives of the Roxana Oil Company, said to be a subsidiary of the Dutch Shell, caused full page advertisements to be placed in the Washington papers attacking the "relief" provisions on the ground that same would have the effect of turning the entire Wyoming producing field over to the Standard and Midwest, at the same time urging that leases should be allowed for as much as 4500 acres in order to enable successful competition with the Standard.

It is understood that the House Committee on Public Lands will hold hearings, so in all probability the whole subject will be thrashed out again, notwithstanding repeated hearings have already been held during the past four years. The subject has been further complicated recently by the introduction of another bill (S. 3521), said to be backed by the Secretary of the Navy, for the condemnation of all privately owned oil lands in the Naval Reserves.

The General Leasing Bill covers the ground of the principal of Secretary Lane's so-called conservation measures, - measures looking to development and use as well as to conserve - which he has consistently urged and advocated ever since he became Secretary of the Interior. That the existing laws for these minerals are impractical and unadapted to modern, economic and mining conditions, is agreed to by most everybody. A coal leasing law for Alaska (38 Stat., 741), and a potash leasing law (Act of October 2, 1917) have already been passed. As the preemption law was an intermediate step between the old cash sale system and the homestead law, so we find compromise features in this bill in the shape of provision for both sales and leases; for instance, the bill provides for an outright sale at public auction of as much as 2560 acres of coal lands, on condition that the purchaser shall expend \$10,000 in development during the first year after the sale; it also provides for an oil prospecting permit for as much as 2560 acres, the permittee to get a patent outright if he discovers oil, for one-fourth of the area of the permit. In general, the bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease public lands for the mining of the minerals named in areas not exceeding 2560 acres, through "advertisement, competitive bidding, or such other methods as he may by general regulation adopt" for "indeterminate periods," with readjustments every ten years for oil and every twenty years for coal, at a royalty to be fixed by the Secretary. Exclusive preliminary prospecting permits for two years are also provided for. No attempt will be made at this time to discuss the "relief" sections except to say that as the bill passed the Senate it gives a preference right to a lease in certain specified cases on those claims on which there are one or more producing wells, on condition that the beneficiary shall pay to the Government one-eighth of the value of all oil theretofore produced from the premises; it also provides for a preference right for a lease in a certain class of cases for those who obeyed the order of withdrawal and desisted from further prosecution of work; no prediction can be made at this time as to the ultimate outcome of these sections. The bill also provides that of the proceeds arising out of

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 3, 1862. It contains a report on the state of the Union and the progress of the war.

2. The second part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the War Department, dated January 10, 1862. It contains a detailed account of the military operations and the condition of the army.

3. The third part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Navy Department, dated January 15, 1862. It contains a detailed account of the naval operations and the condition of the fleet.

4. The fourth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Interior Department, dated January 20, 1862. It contains a detailed account of the land and mineral resources of the United States.

5. The fifth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Treasury Department, dated January 25, 1862. It contains a detailed account of the financial condition of the United States.

6. The sixth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the State Department, dated January 30, 1862. It contains a detailed account of the foreign relations of the United States.



these leasing operations, as well as from the sale of coal lands, fifty per cent shall be paid over to the States in which the leased premises are situated for the support of education or public improvements, as the State Legislature may direct, the remaining fifty per cent being reserved and appropriated as a part of the reclamation fund. Thus it will be seen that both the State and the Nation will be interested in the conduct of successful operations under the lease system to be inaugurated.

Of interest to our local officers is the fact that the bill makes no provision whatever for fees and commissions. If the Secretary should direct that rents and royalties should be paid to Receivers of United States land offices, they would probably get the usual commissions, but this leaves no compensation for the handling of the business connected with permits and applications. So long as we are committed to a fee system, it would seem that such a complete change in the system of public land laws should make due provision for the cost of handling the business.

If this bill can become law, particularly if it can become law in such a way as to put an end to the existing oil land controversy (see September issue of Bulletin), it will undoubtedly lead to increased development and production on a sound and sane basis adequate to the needs of the country, protective alike of the interests of the public and the operator, and productive, ultimately, of a large and continuous income for the schools of the States affected and for the reclamation of arid lands.





## CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

### Appointments.

#### General Land Office:-

William J. Conlyn, of D. C. clerk at \$1000; Samuel J. Norvell, of Texas, and Mrs. Wilhelmina Garges of D. C., copyists at \$900; Miss Anna C. Campbell, of D. C., Miss Sallie V. Downs, of Virginia, Mrs. Emily M. Burns, of Minnesota, and Miss Carey Roberts, of Kentucky, copyists at \$720 per annum.

#### Field Service:-

Benjamin F. L. Heron, of Georgia, Special Agent at \$1680.

#### Local Office:-

Reappointments: William F. Cummins, Register, Land Office, Jackson, Mississippi, and H. Clay Sharkey, Receiver, Land Office, Jackson, Mississippi.

Bernard G. Burke of California, typewriter at \$1080, Land Office, El Centro, California. Miss Thea Hovren, of Montana, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Buffalo, Wyoming. Mrs. Ione Moore, of Montana, typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Havre, Montana. Goodman Lawson, of Washington, typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Great Falls, Montana. Miss Esther K. Lien, of Montana, stenographer and typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Glasgow, Montana.

### Transfers.

#### General Land Office: -

William C. Black, of Pennsylvania, from Law Examiner at \$1600 to Treasury Department. Miss Alice A. Ennis of Idaho, from stenographer and typewriter at \$900, Hailey, Idaho, to copyist at \$900 this office.

#### Local Office:-

Miss Minnie Reinhardt, of Colorado, from stenographer and typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Roswell, New Mexico, to Assistant Clerk, Indian Service, Denver, Colorado.

Miss Kathleen M. Mann, of Montana, from typewriter at \$900, Land Office, Glasgow, to same in the Land Office at Miles City, Montana.





John E. Freeman, of Oklahoma, Land Law Clerk at \$1140, O'Neill, Nebraska, to same in the Land Office at Sundance, Wyoming.

#### Promotions.

##### General Land Office:-

Walter J. Ise, of Nebraska, to Law Examiner at \$1600. Charles N. Ross of D. C., from draftsman at \$1500 to same at \$1600. Mrs. Mary V. Burr, of Virginia, to clerk at \$1400. Peter Truver, of Minnesota, to clerk at \$1200. Zebulon Camp, of North Carolina, to Clerk at \$1000. Henry M. Smith, of Missouri to copyist at \$900. John E. Graham, of Iowa, from skilled laborer at \$660 to assistant messenger at \$720.

##### Field Service:-

Miss Phyllis Lynch, of Utah, from stenographer and typewriter, office Chief, Salt Lake City Field Division at \$900 to same at \$1020. Miss Minnie Talpers, of Colorado, stenographer and typewriter Denver Field Division \$1080 to same at \$1200.

##### Surveying Service:-

Harry D. Jackson, of Nebraska, from transitman at \$110 per month to U. S. Surveyor at \$130 per month.

#### Separations.

##### General Land Office:-

Frank Krattenmaker, of New Jersey, copyist at \$720. Resigned to enlist as field clerk in the Army.

Rosco Frederick, of Alabama, skilled laborer at \$660. Resigned because of having been drafted for service in the Army.

Miss Olive L. Bassler, copyist at \$720. Resigned.

Mrs. Bertha W. Cochran, clerk-librarian at \$1000. Resigned.

#### Furloughs.

##### Surveying Service:-

Addison R. Teller, of Colorado, U. S. Surveyor at \$170 per month. Furloughed for six months in order to enable him to work his farm. Albert C. Horton, Jr., of Nevada, U.S. Cadastral Engineer, at \$200 per month, furloughed for three months in order to enable him to attend a training camp for Army Officers.





Local Office:-

Hiram E. Spear, of D. C., topographic draftsman, Office Surveyor General of Alaska at \$1800 per annum, furloughed for two months pending the completion of his course in the Officers' School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and appointment as 2d Lieutenant in the Regular Army.

William H. Watson, Land Law Clerk at \$1140, Land Office Havre, Montana, furloughed for three months to enter Officers' Training Camp.

Separations.

Field Service:-

George B. Archibald, of Montana, Surveyor for the Inspection of Mineral Deposits at \$2220. Resigned

William C. Perkins, of Missouri, U. S. Surveyor at \$130 per month. Resigned to enter the military service of the United States.

Clarence K. Streit, of Montana, Transitman at \$100, because of having entered the military service of the United States.

William L. Hemphill, transitman, of South Carolina, because of his having been commissioned an officer in the Army.

Obituary.

This office announces with regret the deaths of Mrs. M. Rose Tucker of this office on January 16, 1918, and William Rugg, of the office of the Surveyor General of Alaska on January 22, 1918.

SURVEY NOTES

The Manual

Of special interest to the Surveying Service, and indeed to engineers and surveyors in general, will be the news of the active resumption of work last month by the Manual Board on the new manual of surveying instructions which has been in process of preparation for some time past. Chapters I, II, III, IV and V, treating respectively the subjects "Regulations Imposed by Law," "Instruments and Methods," "System of Rectangular Surveys," "Corner Monuments" and "Restoration of Lost and Obliterated Corners," have been drafted, revised and finally reviewed and have received the formal approval of the Board. Chapter VI, dealing with the complex and far-reaching subject of resurveys, has been subjected to a complete revision since its first draft, the main





obstacle to earlier agreement being not due to any diversity of opinion in the minds of the members of the Board as to the underlying principles involved, nor indeed, for that matter, to the methods to be employed in applying those principles, but rather to the difficulty of treating such an important and intricate subject in a comprehensive manner in the limited space that must necessarily be allotted it in a work of this character. Chapter VII on "Special Surveys and Instructions," VIII on "Field Notes" and IX on "Plats" have been outlined, their subject matter and form discussed and agreed upon and the manuscript and diagrams relating thereto commenced. The original plans contemplated these nine chapters only, but now serious consideration is being given the question of whether it would not be to the best interests of the Land Service as a whole to add another chapter on "Mineral Surveys" and thereby obviate the necessity for the issuance of a separate publication on this subject for the guidance of mineral surveyors. The proposition is meeting with general favor.

The work now nearing completion will be the sixth manual of surveying instructions to be issued under authority of Congress and published in book form by the Commissioner of the General Land Office; the first being published in the year 1855 under Commissioner Hendricks, afterwards Vice-President of the United States, and reissued in 1871 under Commissioner Wilson, without modification. Prior to 1855, letters of surveying instructions were sent out by the commissioners to the various surveying districts to serve as bases for the "General Instructions" which were issued at that time, often in pamphlet form, by the surveyors general. The second Manual was published in 1881 under Commissioner Williamson, and the third in 1890 during Commissioner Groff's administration. The fourth Manual, brought out by Commissioner Lamoreaux in 1894, was the first publication of this character to make serious claim for consideration as a standard work on land surveying in addition to being the official guide for Government surveys. It contained much scientific data of general value and enlarged upon many obscure points in the earlier publications.

The Manual of 1902, published during Commissioner Hermann's administration, was the fifth, and is the Manual of current usage. It is modeled along the lines of the 1894 edition and no small part of its usefulness was due to the fact that the scientific data tabulated in the earlier issues were brought up to date therein. But these tables had their limitations. The necessity for an immediate extension of the Polaris tables was apparent in 1910 and resulted in the assembling by this office in pamphlet form of such data in reference to the daily positions of the Sun and Polaris as are required in our work. This was the first edition of the General Land Office "Ephemeris" which since that time has been issued annually, and of late years in great numbers to meet the demands of engineers and surveyors in private fields as well as in other branches of the Government.

It was also in the year 1910 that a volume of mathematical tables was first published by the General Land Office under the title





of "Standard Field Tables." In addition to the usual trigonometric functions found in surveyors' hand books, this volume contains all tables peculiarly required in the execution of land surveys involving large areas of the earth's surface. This volume found immediate favor in all engineering fields. In fact its popularity, and that of the General Land Office "Ephemeris" became so widespread that it has been found desirable to have both publications listed for sale as public documents.

The publication of the "Ephemeris" and the "Standard Field Tables," however, important as that step was, only partly relieved the situation. It will be recalled that the Manual of 1902 appeared several years prior to that period of rapid evolution in public land surveying that has taken place in recent times as a result of the more frequent contact of new surveys executed under modern methods with the old surveys of another school, and also at a time when the necessity for extensive resurveys was little understood or appreciated. Its value, therefore, as a guide for anything but regular, original surveys and the simpler forms of fragmentary surveys has deteriorated in proportion to the increase in complexity of the problems which are constantly arising in our modern field procedure until now it is of little more value as a surveying asset than its predecessors of the early nineties. While the need for an entirely new treatise on public land surveying and resurveying, not a mere revision of the older editions, has been apparent for some time, and serious effort at practical consideration of the subject has been made during recent years, the constant, rapid and radical evolution in survey and resurvey methods which has taken place since the inauguration of the Direct System of Surveys in 1910, has prevented crystalization of a definite and permanent practice, except in the most general form, until now. Our procedure, especially as regards resurveys, is built on a foundation of progressive Congressional Acts and State laws, and on the decisions of the courts and of this office, all framed to meet newer aspects of our fundamental problem, but always with consideration of the scientific surveying principles involved in their application. This procedure which is embodied in and promulgated through the agency of pamphlets, circular letters, special instructions and the ordinary every-day correspondence constitutes one of the most highly specialized and intricate, technical practices of the Government; and it is the purpose of the new Manual to embody in one volume and to elucidate, as plainly as may be, the important elementary principles of this crystalized practice and to give such examples of practical application of those principles as the space at our command will permit.

The completed chapters will shortly be submitted to the Commissioner for final review, and action as to whether they should be published at once, should they meet with his approval, and distributed in pamphlet form to the Surveying Service as the official Manual as far as it goes, a plan which has considerable support among the members of the Board and others, or whether publication should be postponed until the entire work has been completed.





First Lieutenant A. C. Horton, Jr., U. S. R., formerly Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, District No. 5, with headquarters at Phoenix, Arizona, is now in training at Camp Lee, Petersburg, Virginia.

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Albert Smith, Jr., U. S. Surveyor of the Eastern District, has enlisted in the 23rd Engineers, U. S. Army. After a short course of training at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, he was transferred to Fort McDowell, California, where he is at present.

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James W. Scanlan, U. S. Transitman, District No. 3, who lately passed the preliminary examination for entrance to the Artillery Branch of the Army, failed to pass the final physical test on account of defective sight in one eye. He will return to duty in the field surveying service in Nebraska.

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Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Miss Harriette Kralowec to Mr. Featherstone W. Williamson, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 9, at Berkeley, California, on January 1, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson have returned to Juneau, Alaska, where they will make their home. The Bulletin extends its congratulations to Mr. Williamson and wishes the couple a long and happy life.

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The news of the untimely death of Mrs. Guy P. Harrington, wife of Guy P. Harrington, U. S. Surveyor, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on December 30, last, after a brief illness, came as a great shock to their many friends in the service. The Bulletin extends its sympathy.

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Alexander Douglass, U. S. Surveyor of District No. 2, who recently underwent an operation in Denver, is rapidly recovering his normal health and expects to be able to report for duty in a few days.

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Announcement has been received of the arrival of a brand-new baby boy at the home of John M. Tufts, U. S. Surveyor, District No. 2. Congratulations!

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Francis W. DuBois, formerly a U. S. Surveyor in the Field Surveying Service, paid the Washington office a brief call last month while on a visit to his old home in this city. Mr. DuBois resigned from the service about a year ago to engage in private engineering practice at Baker, Montana. He reports considerable activity in his line in the

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western states in spite of the shortage of labor and other war conditions.

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In the interests of brevity, when being referred to in telegrams and letters, and of harmony with the general scheme, the Eastern District, which comprises the public land states in which the offices of the surveyors general have been closed, with the exception of Nebraska, will hereafter be known as District No. 10. Surveys in this district are under the immediate supervision of Arthur D. Kidder, Associate Supervisor of Surveys.

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The survey of the so-called Searles Lake Basin in southeastern California, recently ordered by the Department, in order to subserve the interests of the Government in the developments of the potash deposits therein, is being vigorously prosecuted in the field under the direction of Arthur W. Brown, U. S. Surveyor. These lands are embraced in Tps. 25 and 26 S., R. 44 E., M. D. M., in San Bernardino County. Acting Assistant Supervisor of Surveys Blout is giving this work his personal attention.

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Plans have been perfected for the commencement in the field of extensive resurveys under group No. 50, California. This group covers about twenty-three full and fractional townships adjacent to the southern portion of the oblique boundary line between California and Nevada and directly north of the A. T. & S. F. R. R. west of Needles, California. Surveyors from the northern districts are being transferred south for this work.

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The service flag in the office of the Assistant Supervisor of Surveys at Boise, Idaho, displays at present five stars representing surveyors and transitmen of the classified service of District No. 7 now with the Army.

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A recommendation made by the Commissioner in his annual reports for the past two years, to the effect that in Alaska, when the Land Office group surveys have not been extended over the land included in a homestead entry, the Government make the survey without expense to the settler, should he so elect, after satisfactory proof has been submitted on the homestead claim, has found expression in a bill recently introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Sulzer, the delegate in Congress from Alaska. The bill in all particulars follows the recommendation contained in the Commissioner's annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916.

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Alonzo H. Adams, U. S. Surveyor, detailed to inspect the manufacture of iron corner posts for survey monuments, at Milwaukee, Wis., reports favorable progress in the output. Shipments to the southern surveying districts will begin next month and to the northern districts in March.

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Although still in the embryonic stage, the proposition, on which the Commissioner has been directing his efforts, to bring relief by resurvey to settlers who happen to live in townships where surveys are obliterated and in which more than 50% of the lands are in private ownership is meeting with considerable encouragement. Early last month Mr. Kinkaid of Nebraska introduced a bill in the House of Representatives authorizing the resurvey or retracement of lands heretofore returned as surveyed public lands, under certain conditions. The bill aims to permit land owners in such townships to have the benefits of the General Land Office resurvey provided they pay their proportionate cost of the whole. This office is fully prepared to handle the situation should the bill be enacted into law.

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T. Walter Bates of district No. 7 and David W. Eaton of district No. 2, U. S. Transitmnen under temporary detail to district No. 5, are engaged on surveys in Tp. 19 N., Rs. 5, 6 and 7 W. and Tp. 20 N., Rs. 6 W., G. and S. R. P. M., Arizona.

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An examination for surveyor, is to be held by the United States Civil Service Commission on February 6 and 7, 1918.

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E. D. Calvin, U. S. Transitmnan of district No. 9 has been admitted to the third officers' training camp and reported for duty January 5, 1918.

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By order dated January 28, 1918, the Commissioner directs that thereafter all matters pertaining to the ordering of iron corner posts and direction of shipments shall be handled by the Supervisor of Surveys at Denver directly with the manufacturer rather than through the home office. This order is calculated to not only save time by directness in placing orders, but to keep the field, through closer contact with the sources of supply in better position to distribute posts in accordance with the demands and to better keep track of the distributions.





The Surveying Division of this office has another high-water mark in the output of surveys for January, 2,259,236 acres of accepted surveys having been placed on file during the past month, making over four and a half million acres for December and January. This record is unprecedented.

#### FIELD SERVICE NOTES.

##### Santa Fe Division.

Upon the recent arrival of the several "Snowbirds" in the Santa Fe Division from their more northerly home Divisions they were given hearty welcome and a fall of snow greeted them just to keep them from getting homesick. For some time prior to the 18th of January they could have sleighed in and around Santa Fe - if there were only sleighs, which there were not - such spells of sleighing weather being unusual. The snow bids fair to remain a while. It has not been blizzard weather, the lowest temperature registered being eight degrees above zero, yet the breezes that blew at times were not exactly gentle summer zephyrs.

With the addition of Special Agent J. A. D. Cooper and J. C. Fain from the Cheyenne, Wyoming, Division, and J. L. Backstrom, from the Helena, Montana, Field Division, all from Mississippi, to the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Field Division, there are almost enough Mississippians in that Division, including Special Agents T. A. Whelan and B. H. Gibbs, already in that Division, to form a Mississippi society. By including Mr. E. G. Shannon, with the U. S. Land Office at Santa Fe, the nucleus of such a society could be secured.

The Old Glory furnished the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Field Division headquarters by the Commissioner some time since was promptly unfurled, and is good to see. More recently there has flown just beneath it, and on the same staff, a service flag to honor former Mineral Examiner H. W. McFarren, former Special Agent W. S. Towner, and former clerk, H. V. Betts; all now doing their bit with the United States Army.

Employees of the United States Geological Survey are busily engaged within the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Field Division, upon work connected with the classification of lands under the 640-acre grazing homestead act. It is believed that the states of Arizona and New Mexico will be comprehensively covered by the Survey this winter.

##### Helena Division.

E. C. Galbraith has received a commission as First Lieutenant, Engineers Reserve Corps, and is now attending the Training Camp which opened at Petersburg, Virginia, on January 5th. His address is Co. 5,





E. R. O. T., Camp Lee, Petersburg, Virginia.

Special Agent Follen, Groves and Backstrom have been transferred, for the winter months, to the Santa Fe Field Division.

Special Agent W. H. Wasner, has completed the Stock driveway work in this Division. In most divisions two agents were assigned to this work, but Mr. Wasner has completed the work in a satisfactory manner, unaided.

Miss Felice Cohn, who has been acting as Assistant Superintendent of opening of Indian Reservations, recently completed a special assignment of bringing up to date the disposition of contest cases pending before the U. S. Land Office at Glasgow, Montana, and will take up a similar assignment in the U. S. Land Office at Havre, Montana.

Former Special Agent J. W. Barker, better known as "Jack," gave up a prosperous law practice at Lewistown, Montana, to enter the Officers' Training Camp at Presidio, California. He is now 1st Lieutenant, Co. K, 13th Infantry, U.S.A., stationed at Camp Fremont, California.

#### Portland Division.

During the quarter ended December 31, 1918, the Portland Field Division had good success with its criminal cases tried.

George N. Farrin, an attorney of Portland, Oregon, was tried for forging the names of clients to endorsements on checks issued by the Receiver of the Roseburg, Oregon, United States Land Office, in repayment of filing fees previously paid on rejected timber and stone applications. The Federal jury sitting at Portland found him guilty on November 3, 1917; and he was sentenced on November 21, 1917, to imprisonment for thirteen months at the Federal Penitentiary at McNeil's Island, Washington.

The criminal case entitled United States vs. J. J. Deadmond and H. A. Steele was also disposed of. Deadmond on July 19, 1917, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to imprisonment for seven months in the county jail. Steel stood trial. The jury at the November term of the United States District Court found him guilty, but recommended clemency owing to extenuating circumstances and he was sentenced on December 18, 1917, to thirty days in jail. Deadmond was charged with perjury and both Deadmond and Steele with conspiracy to commit perjury in connection with Deadmond's homestead proof.

The criminal case entitled United States vs. W. F. Hallowell, E. F. Cooper, W. F. Lick, George L. Young, C. W. Chapman, Robert Greer, W. J. Earl and Gottlieb Miller, was brought to trial at Portland on October 15, 1917. The trial proceeded only as to the defendants Hallowell, Lick, Earl and Miller - defendants Cooper and Chapman





having died after indictment, Young Having pleaded guilty in June 1917 and paid a fine of \$400.00, and Greer never having been apprehended, being reported to be fighting with the allies somewhere in Europe. The trial continued until November 10, 1917, when the jury brought in a verdict of guilty as to defendants Hallowell and Lick, and acquitted Earl and Miller, there being extenuating circumstances as to the two last named. On December 11, 1917, Hallowell was sentenced to imprisonment for thirteen months at McNeil's Island and Lick to three months in the county jail. The gravamen of the offence charged was substantially that of obtaining money under false pretenses made in connection with Oregon and California Railroad Grant lands, and using the United States mails to further and promote the scheme.

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Mrs. Virginia M. Bain returned to duty at headquarters of-  
fice of the Portland Field Division on January 19, 1918, after an  
absence of about a month, due to sickness.

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Mr. Frank Farmer, Mineral Inspector of the Portland Field  
Division, has been temporarily transferred to the Santa Fe Field  
Division for duty during the winter months in connection with mineral  
examinations there.

San Francisco Division.

Mr. George W. Comerford was a recent visitor at the head-  
quarters of the San Francisco Field Division. Mr. Comerford recently  
resigned as a Special Agent, with headquarters at Salt Lake, to assume  
the duties of Inspector of the Income Tax branch of the Internal Revenue  
and will have his office in this city.

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Mr. Claire Gordon, Mineral Inspector, now with the Cheyenne  
Division, spent the Holidays with his relatives in San Francisco and  
while in this city renewed his acquaintance with his old friends in  
this Division.

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Robert C. Pearl, son of Special Agent C. E. Pearl, enlisted  
in the 5th Missouri Truck Driver's Company as a private and on Septem-  
ber 5, 1917, was transferred to the National Army. Recently he was  
appointed Corporal and it is believed that his energy, ability, and  
enthusiasm, will be the means of his rapid advancement in the ranks.





Alaskan Division.

A thirty-two foot motor boat is being constructed at Fairbanks under the immediate supervision of Mineral Inspector George A. Parks. This boat is for the use of the field men on the Yukon River and its tributaries. Such a boat has been greatly needed for a number of years and it is expected that it will pay for itself within a short while.

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Timber Cruiser Nelson Brigham, now at Ruby, will shortly make a trip into the Iditarod and Kuskokwim River country, driving his own team of from seven to nine dogs; this will perhaps be the most severe winter trip to be made.

In reporting to the Chief of Field Division an account of his experiences on a former trip in the Innoko District, he said, "I siwashed (camped) on the Innoko when it was below 45, with no blankets or sleeping bag - the dogs chewed mine up. I kept the tea pail going all night and got no sleep, but did not run out of wood and was all right."

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Timber Cruisers Frank K. Andrews and Harvey K. Carlisle will be stationed at Fairbanks during the winter season and will handle the various timber cases in the interior of Alaska.

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Special Agent Orris Bennett, who recently came to Alaska from the Helena Field Division, has just returned to headquarters from his first field trip of some two months in the Katalla oil fields.

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Chief of Field Division, C. R. Arundell, recently made a special trip of inspection to the Katalla oil fields.

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Special Agent Mason B. Leming is enroute to points on Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet and will reach Anchorage about February 1st, where he will handle the work of the field service in that growing section.

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Special Agent Geo. L. Armstrong has been commissioned a Major of Infantry in the Officers' Reserve Corps and assigned to duty at Fort Sheridan.





Timber Cruisers Brigham and Andrews and Clerk Anderson are subject to draft. The date for the selective drawing under the draft has not yet been definitely announced for the territory, but will probably be about the middle of January, 1918.

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Men working in Alaska naturally become familiar with the lack of certain legislative measures that are badly needed and it is generally agreed that the two most important legislative measures needed to give impetus to homestead settlement is the free survey of isolated homesteads on unsurveyed land and the abolishment of the eighty rod reserve provision on the shores of navigable streams. The act creating a reserve of eighty rods between claims on navigable waters was passed to prevent the shore line from being monopolized. It has had the reverse effect, for the large fishing companies can now place a few acres of scrip at various intervals and effectively bottle up any good harbor. A bill is pending in Congress to relieve this situation, which it is hoped will pass.

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Under the revised Townsite Regulations, the Chief of Field Division has been appointed townsite trustee of the towns of Haines, Douglas and Wrangell. Other pending townsite applications are those of Petersburg and the addition to the townsite of Juneau. A special effort is being made to expedite the handling of townsite matters and at the same time keep the cost of entries as low as possible. The occupants of the several townsites generally approve the action of the Department in having the entries handled entirely by Government employees from survey to trustee's deed, as this system eliminates local factional squabbles and is less expensive to the occupants in finally securing title.

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The Field Service undertook, during the past season, to more effectively protect the growing timber over the territory, by the establishment of a fire patrol composed of three fire guards, and by an arrangement with the Alaskan Engineering Commission, the members of the field surveying force of the General Land Office, the United States Signal Corps, which operates the cable and telegraph lines, and others. By this means the fire menace was greatly lessened during the dry season and a number of fires were extinguished by timely action before any serious damage was done. By virtue of this cooperation, we were able to cover a vast country at a very nominal expense.

Notes were made of the character and value of the timber, from which rough maps were prepared at the end of the season. By pursuing this plan we will eventually secure a lot of valuable information as to the timber resources of the territory and will know just

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where the timber of value is, requiring special care.

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The motorcycle, which was received at Fairbanks during the early summer, was used to good advantage by one of the fire guards, who was engaged in the patrol of the timber in the vicinity of Fairbanks.

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During the month of November, three of the largest boats supplying the Alaskan ports were wrecked: the "Mariposa," valued at more than a million dollars was a total loss; the "Al Ki," valued at more than a quarter of a million, was also a total loss, and the "Spokane," valued at more than half a million was salvaged but will require repairs to the extent of \$100,000.00 before she will again enter the service.

The Special Agent who complains of flat wheeled rolling stock should take notice.

2. The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been named in the above mentioned report.

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PERSONS IN MILITARY SERVICE--INSTALLMENT PAY-  
MENTS ON ENTRIES OF CEDED INDIAN LANDS--INSTRUCTIONS.

Department of the Interior,  
General Land Office,  
Washington, D. C., November 20, 1917

Registers and Receivers,  
United States Land Offices.

Sirs: Where a person has entered or shall enter land formerly embraced in an Indian reservation, for which he is required to pay a certain price per acre for the benefit of the Indians, and thereafter has entered, or shall enter, the military or naval service of the United States, the entry will not be canceled on account of the failure of the soldier or sailor to make the payments of any amounts falling due during the term of his enlistment, but it will be held suspended, pending consideration by Congress of legislation designed to extend the time for such payments beyond the period of military service or the existing war.

2. The question whether such entrymen shall be required to pay interest, except as required by existing laws, will depend on the terms of the legislation which Congress may enact.

3. In cases where the entryman has filed notice of his entrance into the military or naval service as permitted by paragraph 8 of the circular of instructions of August 22, 1917, issued under the act of July 28, 1917, you will nevertheless call upon him for the payment when due, but will in your notice inform him that if he is unable to pay on account of his employment in the military service he should advise you to that effect. In all cases where there is response by him, or on his behalf, that he has entered the military or naval service, you will forward the papers to this office with your report.

Very respectfully,

CLAY TALLMAN,  
Commissioner.

Approved:

ALEXANDER T. VOGELSANG,  
First Assistant Secretary.

(Circular No. 574).





## WAR RELIEF LEGISLATION.

(PUBLIC NO. 94--65th CONGRESS.)  
(S.2334)

An Act To authorize absence by homestead settlers and entrymen, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That during the pendency of the existing war any homestead settler or entryman shall be entitled to a leave of absence from his land for the purpose of performing farm labor, and such absence, while actually engaged in farm labor, shall, upon compliance with the terms of this Act, be counted as constructive residence: Provided, That each settler or entryman within fifteen days after leaving his claim for the purpose herein provided shall file notice thereof in the United States Land Office, and at the expiration of the calendar year file in said land office of the district wherein his claim is situated a written statement, under oath and corroborated by two witnesses, giving the date or dates when he left his claim, date or dates of return thereto, and where and for whom he was engaged in farm labor during such period or periods of absence: Provided further, That nothing herein shall excuse any homestead settler or entryman from making improvements or performing the cultivation required by applicable law upon his claim or entry: Provided further: That the provisions of this Act shall apply only to homestead settlers and entrymen who may have filed their application prior to the passage of this Act. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to provide rules and regulations for carrying this Act into effect.

Approved, December 20, 1917.

## NEWLY PROPOSED LAND LEGISLATION.

Every session of Congress sees many new propositions offered in the way of legislation dealing with the one remaining great asset of the nation, the public lands. Since the entrance of the United States upon the present war, a number of bills have been introduced, several of which have been enacted, providing special relief in the case of settlers who engage in the military or naval service. A number of bills of that character are yet pending, among which the following may be noted:

H. R. 7358 is entitled, "A Bill amending the Act of June 9, 1916, and granting a preference right to make homestead entry to all persons enlisted in the military or naval service of the United States."





The scope of this bill becomes apparent when it is remembered that the Act of June 9, 1916, which it is proposed to amend, is the revestment act by which the title was restored to the United States of the unsold portion of the Oregon and California land grant. The lands affected by this act, some 2,300,000 acres, under the law as it now stands, are to be classified as agricultural, timber lands, and power site lands; the agricultural lands to be opened under the homestead law, and the timber sold from the lands classified as timber lands, separate and apart therefrom, the land after the removal of the timber to fall into the homestead class. Inasmuch as our public lands, available for appropriation under the homestead law are becoming every year more and more scarce, this further opportunity to secure a desirable entry under the homestead law has excited no little attention, not only in the State of Oregon, but everywhere amongst our land-hungry people, so that the completion of the classification of these lands, and the opening of the agricultural portion thereof, has been awaited with a great deal of impatience. The recent announcement of the intention of the Department to open a portion of these lands for disposition in the coming season has been received with great satisfaction.

Under this bill, however, it is proposed in substance, that lands classified as agricultural shall be withdrawn from settlement and entry, during the period of the present war between the United States and Germany, and for a period of twelve months after the close of such war, during which period all persons in the military or naval service of the United States during said war shall have a preference right to make a homestead entry of said lands.

It goes without saying, that if this bill did become a law, it would afford homesteads to but a small portion of the soldiers and sailors who would be entitled to make entry thereunder; indeed, it is doubtful whether it would take care of the Oregon contingent alone.

H. R. 6179 is a bill providing that forfeiture provisions of land laws shall not apply in the case of persons in the military or naval service during the present war, the opening clause of which is to this effect:

"That no right to hold, occupy or enter any public land surveyed or unsurveyed, initiated or acquired under any public land law of the United States, by any person in the military or naval service of the United States during the existing war prior to the commencement of his military or naval service, shall be lost or forfeited by reason of his absence from the land or his failure to perform work or make improvements thereon or do any other act required by the law under which initiated, during his service in the present war and until six months thereafter."





Other provisions are made in the bill consistent with its effective administration, and for the protection of rights under existing law.

H. R. 6110 entitled, A Bill "to extend protection to the civil rights of members of the military or naval establishments of the United States engaged in the present war," in section 15 contains somewhat similar provisions to those in H. R. 6179.

Delegate Sulzer of Alaska has introduced three bills of no little interest to the Territory; H. R. 8563 is to amend the homestead law in its application to Alaska, providing for the free survey of a homesteader's claim in the event of his having settled before the extension of the public surveys over his claim.

Since the Sixty-third Congress the Department has in several instances recommended legislation along this line, and it is to be hoped that this measure, or one similar thereto, will be enacted at the present session.

H. R. 8564, also dealing with conditions in Alaska, contemplates the abolition of reserved shore spaces along the shores of navigable or other waters in the Territory. The present statutory provision for reserving such spaces in Alaska has for some time been regarded as of extremely doubtful service to the best interests of the Territory, and repeated efforts have been made for the modification of the law in that respect.

H. R. 8982, entitled "A Bill to authorize leasing of public lands in Alaska for grazing purposes." This bill is quite brief in its terms, authorizing generally the Secretary of the Interior to lease in his discretion, under such regulations as he may adopt, for stockgrazing purposes, unappropriated public lands, either surveyed or unsurveyed, in the territory, not adapted to ordinary agricultural uses but chiefly valuable for pasturage, in area not to exceed in the aggregate 10,240 acres to any one lessor, for such periods of time as may be agreed upon, but in no case to exceed 25 years, for such annual rental as may be fixed by agreement, subject to revision at stated periods. The bill provides also that lands thus leased may be opened to exploration for the minerals therein and the acquisition of title thereto, and further that on the termination of a lease the lessor shall have a preferred right to purchase the land on which his principal improvements are situated, not to exceed 640 acres.





## A NEW PROOF TAKING OFFICER.

Considerable correspondence has been carried on through the columns of the Bulletin with respect to the desirability of having a proof taking officer designated in each land district authorized to take proofs upon or near the land covered by the entry. Some of the expressions of opinion have been decidedly favorable toward such a modification of the present law while others have been unfavorable.

A full expression from the Field on this subject is quite desirable and as an invitation thereto the following tentative bill is submitted for such comment as may seem appropriate by the Field Service generally. The experience of our local officers and of the Field Services ought to furnish many valuable suggestions in connection with the proposed innovation.

A draft of the bill as submitted follows:

Be it enacted etc. It shall be lawful for the Commissioner of the General Land Office to designate from the clerical force at such district land offices as he may think best, a proof taking officer, who shall be authorized to take final proofs, upon or near the land covered thereby, in all cases where such proofs are now required by law; and, such officer shall be and is hereby empowered to administer the oaths requisite to the proper execution of all proofs taken by and before him, and receive all fees, commissions and payments required to be submitted with the final proof.

Section 2. The Secretary of the Interior shall provide such regulations and issue such instructions as may be required for the proper administration hereof.

## RECENT DECISIONS OF THE COURTS.

### Right of Recovery - Statute of Limitations.

In the case of the United States against Jones, decided in the Circuit Court of Appeals (243 Fed. Rep., 309), among other things, the Court held that where the defendant caused certain honorably discharged soldiers to make homestead entries for his benefit and procured them to make false and fraudulent representations and

# A NEW REPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES

Considerable progress has been made in the study of the various aspects of the problem of the distribution of the population of the United States. The results of the study are presented in the following report.

The first part of the report deals with the general aspects of the problem. It discusses the various factors which influence the distribution of the population, and the methods which have been used to study the problem.

## A SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY

The results of the study are summarized in the following table. It shows the distribution of the population of the United States by region, by sex, and by age.

Region	Sex	Age	Population
North	Male	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000
	Female	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000
South	Male	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000
	Female	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000
West	Male	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000
	Female	0-14	10,000,000
		15-64	20,000,000
		65+	10,000,000

The results of the study show that the population of the United States is distributed in a very uneven manner. The population is concentrated in the East, and is more densely packed in the South than in the North.

## REMARKS ON THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY

The results of the study are of great interest, and show that the population of the United States is distributed in a very uneven manner.

In the study of the distribution of the population of the United States, it is found that the population is concentrated in the East, and is more densely packed in the South than in the North. The results of the study are of great interest, and show that the population of the United States is distributed in a very uneven manner.



affidavits in their applications and final proofs respecting alienation, residence, cultivation and improvements, and these representations were relied upon and in consequence patents were issued, the Government has a right of action against the defendant for the value of the land, though, due to the erroneous holding of the Land Department that the entrymen were entitled to deduct from their required period of residence, the length of their respective military service, the authorized showing as to residence etc. by the entrymen did not entitle them to the issuance of patents. In other words, the misapplication of law by the Land Department did not defeat the right of the United States to recover the value of the land from the person who was responsible for the fraudulent representation.

In the same case, the Court also held that although suits to annul patents procured by fraud are barred under the act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1099), if not brought within six years, the Government can sue to recover the value of the land procured from it through mistake or fraud, waiving any right of action it might have had for the annulment of the patent, as the Government is not bound by any statute of limitation unless Congress clearly manifests its intention that it should be so bound.

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Res Judicata.

In the case of the United States against Whitted et al. (245 Fed. Rep., 629), the Court said -

The Government having had a full hearing as to the character of the lands in controversy in the contest proceeding before the land office, with opportunity to show, if it could, that the lands were coal lands, not subject to entry under the lieu selection, either at the date of the selection, or at the date of the hearing, we think the trial court rightly held that that question was not open to relitigation in the courts after the issuance of patent.

#### Sale of Timber Lands - Measure of Recovery.

The case of the United States against Frick, et al. (244 Fed. Rep., 574), involved a proceeding against a patent for timber lands wherein it was alleged by the Government that the entry was procured through false representations. The Court held -





To be open to application and purchase, it was quite as essential under the law that the land should be unoccupied and unclaimed and free from improvements by others as that it should be of the character represented in the application; the statute requires these several facts to be stated and shown, and it does not undertake to make any distinction as to their materiality to constitute a valid application for purchase from the Government.

The Court also held in this case that where the defendant in a suit to set aside a patent to public lands obtained by fraud has passed title to a bona fide purchaser, recovery may be had from the defendant for the amount for which he sold the land; the act of March 3, 1896 (29 Stat., 42), providing for recovery only of the amount for which the land was sold, by the Government, where title has passed to a bona fide purchaser, applies only to case of a patent issuing erroneously, but without fraud.

#### Proceedings by the Government - Laches.

The Court held in the case of United States against Fletcher, et al. (242 Fed. Rep., 818), that the United States is not barred by laches from maintaining a suit to enforce a public right or to assert a public interest and in which it is the real party in interest, but is so barred from maintaining suits in which it is merely a formal party brought to enforce the rights of individuals and involving no interests of the Government.

#### ----- Mining Claim - Extralateral Rights.

The Court said in the case of Bourne against Federal Mining and Smelting Company (242 Fed. Rep., 466), the plaintiff asserts an extraordinary right, not incident to ownership under the common law, but conferred by statute. He seeks to go outside the boundaries of his own claim and penetrate the possessions of another. Prima facie, the defendant is the owner, not only of the surface, but of all beneath the surface of its claims. This assumption that its ownership is exclusive is effective to repel intrusion by anyone who does not come clothed with a title acquired by virtue of a compliance with the provisions of the statute. By this suit, the plaintiff seeks, constructively, to enter beneath the surface of the defendant's claims, and to take therefrom valuable deposits. Necessarily, he assumes the burden of proof, and it is incumbent upon him to

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show, by a preponderance of the evidence, such a location of his claim as, under the law, entitles him to follow the lode appexing therein, to and into the defendant's claims.

### IMPORTANT SCHOOL LAND DECISION.

An unusually important decision was handed down by the United States Supreme Court on the 28th ultimo, in the case of Frederick A. Sweet, Administrator, versus the United States, on appeal from the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. The court construed the grant of school lands to the State of Utah, reversing the decision of the court below, and holding that, under the terms of the enabling act, mineral lands were excepted from the school grant to the State.

The text of the decision is not yet available, but in our next issue we will again call attention to the decision and its general importance in the administration of State grants.

### LAND OFFICE NOTES.

#### Sale of Siletz Timber Lands.

The November Bulletin contained on page 13, a statement of the offering for sale on September 25, 1917, of 3,259.54 acres of timber lands in the former Siletz Indian reservation, Oregon. This land had been set apart as a timber reserve for these Indians, and Congress had provided for the sale of the land and timber for the benefit of the tribe. The tract contained 170,620,000 feet of timber according to the estimates, and the land and timber together were appraised at \$150,314.44. The sale was adjourned in order to give prospective purchasers an opportunity to examine the land. The sale was reopened on December 8, 1917, at which time there was sold the land offered in Sections 5 and 6, in Township 10 S., Range 10 W., the descriptions aggregating 671.23 acres, and containing thereon 52,580 M. feet of Douglas fir, 5,090 M. feet of spruce, 5,320 M. feet of hemlock, or a total of 62,990 M. feet. The amount paid for the land and timber was \$61,169.03, the minimum price fixed therefor. therefor.

#### Gig Harbor Abandoned Military Reservation.

On August 22, 1917, the Secretary of War turned over to this Department as no longer needed for military purposes a reservation containing 77.80 acres, situated on the north

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side of the entrance to Gig Harbor, narrows of Puget Sound, Washington. Under the Act of July 5, 1884 (23 Stat., 103), this reservation after survey and appraisal, would be disposed of at public offering for cash at not less than the appraised price. The land, however, had been leased by the War Department, and there has been introduced in Congress, House Bill No. 8,749, which provides for the survey of the lands into tracts and lots as nearly as practicable in accordance with the tracts occupied by said lessees, and for the disposal of the lands to such lessees, at not less than the price of the land, to be fixed by appraisalment.

#### Opening Fort Peck Coal Lands.

There are approximately 100,000 acres of coal lands within the former Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana, which have not yet been opened to agricultural entry. These lands were recently classified and appraised without regard to the coal deposits and it is expected that a Proclamation will issue in the near future opening the lands to agricultural disposition, with a reservation of the coal deposits.

The work of opening these lands has been hampered to some extent by the fact that many persons desiring to acquire the lands have filed applications therefor, which have been rejected by the district land office. The rejection has been affirmed by this office in all cases in which an appeal has been filed. There are now dozens of these cases pending in the Department on appeal.

#### Townsites.

January 8, 1918, the Department appointed appraisers of twelve lots in the Rupert townsites, Idaho, within the Minidoka Irrigation Project. These lots will be offered for sale at public outcry on March 16, 1918, provided all necessary preliminary action shall be completed in time to hold the sale on that date. Mr. Barry Dibble, Project Manager, Burley, Idaho, has been detailed as Superintendent in charge of the sale.

Under date of April 28, 1917, the Secretary of the Interior authorized the withdrawal from sale of lands subject to irrigation in Government townsites within Reclamation projects, that same might be leased for agricultural purposes with a view to increasing crop production. The unsold lots in Anita, Ballantine, Osborne, Huntley and Worden townsites, within the Huntley Irrigation Project were so withdrawn. There being a demand for residence lots in these townsites, the Department on January 16, 1918, released from withdrawal all unsold lots in the townsites named above except those

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covered by leases given in accordance with the above.

Arkansas Lake Lands.

On December 31, 1917, the Department approved a decision of the Commissioner asserting title on behalf of the Government to an area shown upon the official plat of December 23, 1846, of T. 11 N., R. 10 E., Arkansas, as "Youngs Lake". This is another one of the Arkansas so-called lake cases, in which lands were erroneously returned as water by the surveyors. The area of so-called Youngs Lake is approximately 2200 acres. The lands will be surveyed and opened to homestead entry at an early date.

Procedure Under Stock-raising Act.

The attention of the office has been called to the fact the local officers are allowing entries under the general or enlarged homestead laws for lands embraced in prior stock-raising applications. If this is so, their action in that respect is in error. However, the fact that stock-raising applications are pending would not prevent the filing of other applications under any public land law for the same land but all such subsequent applications will be suspended in the local land office awaiting final action on the stock-raising applications.

The opinion of the office has also been requested on the following question: Will an entryman under the general or enlarged homestead law be entitled to the preference right conferred by Sec. 8 of the stock-raising law as against an applicant for the land under the stock-raising law whose application was filed prior to the allowance of the general or enlarged homestead entry? The office has recently held that an application under the stock-raising law cannot be defeated by filing an application under the general or enlarged homestead act for adjoining land and then claiming a preference right to the land in the stock-raising application.

ALASKA TOWNSITE REGULATIONS AMENDED - INDIAN CITIZENS.

General Land Office  
Washington

January 8, 1918.

Registers and Receivers,  
U. S. Land Offices,  
Surveyor-General and  
Chief of Field Division,  
Sirs: Alaska.

You are advised that on December 15, 1917, the

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains. The *Agrobacterium* strains were grown in the YEA medium for 24 h at 28 °C. The cell concentration of the *Agrobacterium* strains was adjusted to 1.0 × 10<sup>8</sup> cells/ml. The cell suspension was then mixed with the plant tissue and the transformation efficiency was determined. The results are the mean of three independent experiments. Error bars represent the standard deviation.

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Secretary of the Interior amended Section 6, page 17 of the Alaska townsite regulations, Circular 491, approved July 19, 1916 (45 L. D., 237), so as to read in full as follows:

Indian or native Alaskan occupants who have secured certificates of citizenship under the territorial laws of Alaska, shall be treated in all respects like white citizen occupants; but all land occupied by other Indians or Alaskan natives shall not be assessed nor conveyed by the trustee. In making the subdivisional survey herein required, the surveyor will set apart the possessions occupied by the Indians who are not citizens and appropriately designate them as such upon the triplicate plats of his surveys, but he will not extend any street or alley upon or across such possessions.

In connection herewith, attention is called to Territorial Act of April 27, 1915 (Chap. 24, Session Laws of Alaska, 1915, page 52), providing a method whereby native Indians of Alaska may definitely establish the fact of their citizenship under Sec. 6, act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat., 388). A certificate of such citizenship will therefore be required to enable "Indian or native Alaskan occupants" of lots in townsites to avail themselves of the privileges of such amended regulations. (Refer to circular No. 580).

ACCOUNTS - VOUCHERS PAYABLE FROM  
TWO APPROPRIATIONS.

General Land Office

Washington

January 14, 1918.

ACCOUNTS: Vouchers payable  
from two appropriations.

United States Surveyors General  
and Special Disbursing Agents.

Sirs:

Each voucher chargeable to two or more appropriations should have indicated thereon the particular portion chargeable to each appropriation, and if time is a factor, the dates inclusive of service chargeable under each appropriation should be clearly indicated. This is particularly true of vouchers parts of which are chargeable to Indian appropria-

Enclosure of the letter on numbered enclosure, page 17 of 22.  
All the enclosed documents, including this, are dated July 19,  
1951. The letter is dated July 19, 1951.

India, as a matter of fact, has been an-  
other certificate of recognition under the trusteeship  
of the United Nations, which is a full and complete  
recognition of the fact that India is a sovereign  
state. The United Nations has recognized India as a  
sovereign state, and the United Nations has recognized  
India as a sovereign state. The United Nations has  
recognized India as a sovereign state, and the United  
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India as a sovereign state, and the United Nations  
has recognized India as a sovereign state.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Washington, D.C.  
July 19, 1951  
The United States of America

United States of America

United States of America

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tions. Please be very careful hereafter to see that this is done and that all required memorandum copies furnish the same data.

Very respectfully,

C. M. BRUCE,

(Refer to circular No. 582) Acting Commissioner.

MAIL SENT FROM THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE TO THE DISTRICT LAND  
OFFICES AND OTHER FIELD OFFICES AND FROM THOSE  
OFFICES TO THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

The General Land Office transacts a large part of its business with ninety-five district land offices in the United States, the Alaska land offices and the offices of the Chiefs of Field Division and of the Surveyors-General; and those offices transact a large part of their business with the General Land Office. Every day many letters are written from the same place to the same place and each is transmitted under its own cover.

Under this system, ten, twenty-five or one-hundred letters from the same place to the same place may be sent at different times of the day.

Would it not result in considerable saving to the Government if all letters from the same place to the same place were sent at the same time, but once a day, and under a single cover? This class of mail could be sorted out and letters addressed to the same office wrapped in a package and all transmitted under the same cover.

#### NENANA COAL FIELD - ALASKA.

Secretary Lane of the Interior Department announced January 19th that the work of surveying and dividing into leasing units the more accessible part of the Nenana coal field, Alaska, has been completed, and that as soon as the data is printed the lands that have been divided into leasing blocks will be offered for lease under the provisions of the Alaska coal land leasing law, Act of October 20, 1914 (38 Stat., 741). Announcement of the offer for lease is promised in the near future when full publicity of the leasing offer will be given through the press and the leading coal trade journals.

The area to be offered comprises approximately 19,000 acres of land divided into 23 blocks or tracts, ranging from 160 to 1,664 acres, each block being in such form as is believed to permit the most economical mining. A lease under

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.

3. The third part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.

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11. The eleventh part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.

12. The twelfth part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.

13. The thirteenth part of the report deals with the work of the various departments and the progress of the work during the year.



the law can not exceed 2,560 acres, and may include one or more contiguous leasing blocks.

The lands to be offered for leasing constitute the more accessible and immediate minable part of the surveyed lands of the Nenana coal field, and are in T. 11 S., Rs. 5, 6 and 7, and T. 12 S., R. 7 W., Fairbanks Meridian. They lie in the valley of Lignite Creek, a tributary of the Nenana River, extending up the creek from its mouth for about 12 miles. The mouth of the creek is on the approved surveyed route of the Government railroad from Seward to Fairbanks, at a point about 364 miles from the coastal terminus at Seward, and about 106 miles from the inland terminus of the railroad at Fairbanks. While it is not possible to state when the railroad between Fairbanks and Seward will be finished, it is believed that the summer of 1918 will see the portion of the road completed from the coal field to Tanana River, thus making this coal available for barge shipment to Fairbanks and other river towns.

The geologists who have examined this field report that the coal occurs in many beds of various thicknesses up to 30 or 35 feet, there being at least 12 beds of workable thickness, of which probably at least 6 are over 20 feet thick. The coal-bearing rocks are only gently folded and no intrusive rocks are known to cut them.

The coal of this field is lignite of fair grade. While it is not suitable for export, it will furnish a valuable and much needed fuel in portions of interior Alaska that are now dependent on a scanty and expensive supply of wood. The uses of Nenana coal will probably be as locomotive fuel on the Government railroad, for power and thawing at the mines in Tanana Valley, as domestic fuel in Tanana Valley, and as riverboat fuel on local Tanana River boats and possibly on some of the Yukon steamers. It is desirable that Nenana coal should, if possible, be used on the greater part of the railroad, rather than the higher grade Matanuska coal, because the heavy freight traffic will be northbound, leaving southbound capacities available for hauling coal. The Nenana coal field is nearer the summit of the Alaska Range than any known coal south of the divide.

#### MATANUSKA COAL.

Coal from the Chickaloon mine, in the Matanuska field, has reached Seattle and will be made the subject of exhaustive tests at the University of Washington, says a recent issue of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. The Chickaloon field contains Matanuska's best, a quality of steam coal equal to the Pocahontas grade, which has been long shipped from the Atlantic Coast for the use of naval vessels on the Pacific.





No commercial mine has been developed in this field, though leases have been made to private parties, who will undertake to get this coal to the coal market next summer. One company, the Matanuska Coal Company, will operate on leaseings comprising 1,440 acres. Machinery and equipment have been ordered, and preliminary operations will commence when this material arrives. Doubtless two or three companies will be operating in the Chickaloon field by midsummer of next year.

What influence this high-grade Alaska coal will have on the Pacific Coast markets is conjectural. It is claimed for it that it is of a higher quality than other coast coals, and if sold at even the same price might displace an equal amount of Washington coal. Barge line transportation from Anchorage to the coast ports may be procured at low cost, though the cost of labor and of operation will be greater in Alaska than at Washington mines. The Government's mining operations will be confined to the production of coal for Government needs. Marketed coal will be that mined by private companies, and present prospects indicate that the price in Seattle will be at least that asked for local coal.

Alaska will receive the greatest initial benefit from the Matanuska fields. Coal has been imported largely from British Columbia, and has cost from \$12 to \$14 per ton. After this winter Alaska consumers will be able to fill their bins at from \$5 to \$6 per ton, with the best grades, and the Nenana lignite will be marketed at even lower prices. Cheap coal will encourage winter gold mining, gold and copper production, and stimulate the general business of the territory.

Alaska Railroad Record.





## FERRY LAKE OIL SUITS

Eighteen suits were recently instituted on behalf of the Government in the United States District Court, Western District of Louisiana, Shreveport Division, to quiet title to certain oil producing lands, originally shown upon the official plats as portions of "Ferry Lake" situated in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. The bills also include prayers for accounting for the values of the oil alleged to have been illegally extracted from the lands. Some, if not all, of the suits will be heard during the next term of court which meets this month (February).

The Caddo oil field of northwestern Louisiana is located about twenty-five miles northwest of Shreveport. It is a comparatively narrow field, extending for about ten miles in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction. It is a new field and its limitations may not yet have been ascertained. It may prove to be of much greater extent. It is considered one of the rich oil fields of the southeastern part of the United States.

The Caddo oil field first received attention ten years ago. About that time a letter was written to the President stating that there was a wild gas well in the Caddo field and complaining of the enormous waste of natural gas without any apparent effort on the part of operators to prevent it. It was alleged that the annual waste of the gas in that field was equal to one-twentieth of the total amount of natural gas annually consumed in the United States. The matter was referred to the Director of the Geological Survey, as a result of which an investigation was made and all the public lands within that township and a number of other townships in the vicinity were withdrawn by a blanket withdrawal issued by the Secretary of the Interior December 15, 1908. On July 2, 1910, Louisiana Petroleum Reserve No. 4 was established by order of the President, embracing the public lands within the townships previously withdrawn, except those within which it had been ascertained that there were no oil or gas producing lands.

The discovery of gas was followed by a rush of persons desirous of obtaining the public lands by location under the United States mining laws, and several hundred such locations were made within a short time. Lands which previously were considered to be of very little value suddenly became extensively sought for.





The first step that led to the institution of the above-referred to oil suits was initiated in the Land Department by the filing of an application for the survey of a portion of the bed of Ferry Lake December 8, 1909. It was alleged in the application that the bed of Ferry Lake was a temporarily submerged or drowned forest and that the title had never passed out of the United States. The applicants for the survey also alleged that they had made oil locations within the so-called lake area and were claiming the lands under the placer mining laws. It was necessary for the Land Department to determine the status of the Ferry Lake area, and a strenuously contested case was fought before the decision was reached that the above-referred to oil suits were to be instituted. The Land Office force as a whole perhaps is not familiar with the history of this case. It is, however, one of the most interesting and one of the most thoroughly investigated cases that has arisen in recent years.

Ferry or Caddo Lake, the latter name having attached to it from the fact that the Caddo tribe of Indians formerly lived within that vicinity, was, as originally meandered, about twenty miles long by fifteen miles wide, situated in the States of Texas and Louisiana. The early surveys of northwestern Louisiana were made about 1839. The official plats based upon those surveys show a number of large lakes joining each other, designated by the names Ferry, Soda, Clear and Cross. About thirty years later, the greater portions of all of the above-mentioned lakes, except Ferry Lake, had become dry and the lake beds were surveyed and the lands were patented to the state as swamp lands. The Ferry Lake area remained unsurveyed. In time conflicting interests contested for the possession of the lake area, which was claimed by oil locators, riparian claimants and the Caddo Levee District, a political agency of the State. Hearings were held before the Land Office and the Secretary of the Interior, at which were present the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana and many other able lawyers. The case was exhaustively investigated in the field by mineral inspectors, geologists, ecologists, surveyors and special agents. The Caddo Levee District contended that Ferry Lake is a navigable body of water and that the lake bed belongs to the State by virtue of its sovereignty as the owner of the beds of navigable lakes, or by virtue of the provisions of the swamp land grant. Upon the strength of that assumption it had leased the lake area to the Gulf Refining Company. The oil locators who were claiming under the placer mining laws, contended that the area was merely temporarily submerged at the date of the admission of Louisiana to statehood, and that consequently the United States had never parted title to the lands.





It became necessary, therefore, to determine the mean high water elevation of the lake in 1812, the date of the admission of Louisiana, and in 1839, the date of the original survey. In order to ascertain that elevation, a thorough investigation was made for the purpose of determining the causes that led up to the formation of the lake and the changes that subsequently occurred. It may be interesting to narrate briefly for the benefit of the readers of the Bulletin the conclusions arrived at by the investigators.

The elevation of the lands within the State of Louisiana is in most places not much above sea level! The northwestern part of the state is drained by the Red River, which empties into the Mississippi. The evidence obtained from the physical features of the region discloses the fact that the areas covered by Ferry, Soda, Clear, Cross and other lakes, were formerly covered by a dense hardwood forest. Even today stumps of large hardwood trees may be found in the bed of Ferry Lake. Many theories have been advanced by scientists as to the cause of the formation of the above-mentioned lakes. According to the most authentic information, and that which was accepted by the Government investigators, it was concluded that some time during the latter part of the 15th century a raft formed near the junction of the Red River and the Mississippi River, caused by the lodgment of fallen trees which had floated down the former-mentioned river. As the outlet became clogged, other trees floating down the river also became lodged, and in time a raft was formed, which subsequently became known as the "Great Raft". This raft was made of large uprooted trees and silt, and in many places trees sprouted and grew on top of the raft itself. In time it extended up the river a distance between its lower and upper extremities of from 40 to 50 miles. It worked its way up the Red River at the rate of approximately one mile per year. During the latter part of the 18th century, it had reached a point about opposite where Shreveport now stands. The effect which this raft had was to cause the waters of the Red River above it to be ponded and spread out over the surrounding lands. The level of the waters was therefore raised and the low depressions in the land became over-flowed. In this way Ferry, Clear, Soda and Cross Lakes were formed about the latter part of the 18th century.

At that time they had the appearance of drowned forests with thousands of tall trees extending like masts of ships above the surface of the waters. During the early years of the 19th century, a number of expeditions were made by explorers and scientists, and the raft-formed lakes of northwestern Louisiana became the subject of their observations. References may be found in some of the leading geological works relating to the geology of the southeastern part of the United States. When Charles Dickens





visited this country he obtained material which forms a part of the subject matter of one of his books entitled "American Notes". In Chapter 17 he described the "terrible death of (Colonel) Robert Pettet" on Caddo Lake, who, the account states was murdered by an enemy named Rose.

Owing to the formation of the great raft, the region above where Shreveport is now located became unique in the respect that the changes which usually occupy ages and whose full story can be learned only by deduction, took place within a span of a few years. Lakes were formed and destroyed. Stream beds were formed and abandoned. Water falls were produced only to destroy themselves, and new streams were formed out of parts of the beds of old ones. Giant forests were drowned and new forests of an entirely different species grew upon their ruins. When Louisiana was admitted to statehood in 1812, the Ferry Lake locality had the semblance of a drowned forest with bayou channels winding in and out among the dead trees. With the passage of the years, the tops of the trees became broken off and decayed, and now the remains of this once giant forest consists of stumps which slightly protrude in many places above the surface of the water.

During the early part of the 19th century, before the introduction of railroads, the increasing commerce of the United States was carried on principally on its navigable waters, and the Mississippi River, including the Red River, one of its tributaries, was a great highway of commerce. In order to make the territory adjacent to the Red River accessible, it became necessary to take some steps to make the Red River unimpeded. One of the interesting features of the great raft was the fact that its lower end decayed and disintegrated at about the same rate that its upper end formed. It would, therefore, have required many years for the upper Red River to open itself for navigation unless the raft should be removed by other than natural causes. Attempts were made on behalf of the Government to cause the removal of the raft, and various portions of it were removed at different periods by the United States Army engineers during the 19th century. Its final removal was accomplished about 1873. When the raft was removed, the upper Red River conditions again became similar to those of the pre-raft period. Clear, Soda, Cross and other lakes disappeared and were surveyed and their lake beds disposed of. The outlet to Ferry Lake had, however, in the meantime become clogged and it became necessary for that lake to make for itself a new outlet before it could drain itself. That it was doing, and it was alleged that in the course of a few years the lake would drain itself, provided that its natural conditions were not interfered with. In 1910, however, Congress, in order to prevent the waters of the lake from further receding, cu-





thorized the construction of a dam across its mouth. That dam has been constructed and the waters continue to remain intact.

The Ferry Lake locality now has the semblance of a busy oil field. Oil wells may be seen in every direction. The drilling of the wells has not been confined to the dry lands alone. Many wells are even located out in the waters of the lake itself. Millions of dollars worth of oil and gas have been already extracted, and millions of dollars worth will doubtless be extracted in the future.

The Land Office contended at the time that it considered the Ferry Lake case that the title to the whole lake bed was vested in the Government. The case was submitted to the Attorney General, who rendered an opinion holding that only those lands (about 600 acres) situated between the mean high-water level of 1812 and the original meander line belonged to the Government. The above-referred to suits involve the latter-mentioned lands.

In conclusion, it may not be amiss to call attention herein to the fact that as time passes and the extent of the public domain becomes more and more diminished the struggle to obtain public lands becomes more acute. As a consequence, the adjudication of public land cases has become more difficult and the contest of such cases more vigorous.





## THE CLOCK AND THE CLERK

-----O-----

6:15 a.m.

Dozing on his downy bed,  
Rattles the clock o'er his head,  
His sleepy eyes pierce not the dark  
He swears the clock has missed the mark.

6:30 a.m.

Up he gets, it's all he kin do,  
To find by guess the open window,  
The good old rocker's still at large,  
Its business ends well camouflaged.

Ouch !

His heart-felt words I'll here omit,  
Each one was sure a perfect fit.

7 a.m.

In office dress he seeks the cellar,  
Shakes the furnace, bully feller!  
Sifts the ashes o'er his shoes,  
Bumps his head against the flues.

7:15 a.m.

Finished then his morning toil,  
Lights the gas his grub to boil,  
The gas, alas, like Henry Ford,  
Goes poperty-pop and jumps the board,  
Eats his breakfast from a can,  
Saving food on Hoover's plan.

7:30 a.m.

Goodbye to wife -- no time to shave,  
Hangs to a strap his job to save.

8:47 a.m.

The car is late and so is he,  
His chief is there the time to see,  
Clips a coupon from his "leave",  
Though he says it makes him grieve.

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

...

123

... ..

1870



Alas for the clerk, alas for the chief,  
The lives of both are filled with grief,  
Ah well for each if some sweet day,  
Uncle Sam will raise their pay.

Selah.

## STOCK RAISING LANDS

Secretary Lane of the Interior Department announces the second designation under the stock-raising homestead act of lands in New Mexico. The lands affected by his action are situated in the east-central part of the State, principally in Quay and Curry counties and within the eastern portion of the Tucumcari Land District.

These lands were recently examined in the field by representatives of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Plant Industry who found that they were chiefly valuable for grazing and raising of forage crops. The total area designated is about 200,000 acres of which approximately 46,000 are vacant public lands.

The remaining 154,000 acres are covered by about 275 applications to make entry under the stock-raising homestead act. These applications have been filed from time to time in the local land office and give to the applicants preference right of entry.

This designation becomes effective on March 11, 1918, and thereafter the lands will be enterable in tracts of 640 acres each if they are otherwise of proper status.

In December 74,806 acres of land in North Dakota were designated as stock-raising lands under the stock-raising homestead law. This is the second designation of this kind in North Dakota, the total area designated now being 112,000 acres. This land was examined by field parties and found to contain no merchantable timber, to be nonirrigable, chiefly valuable for grazing and raising forage crops, and of such character that 640 acres are reasonably required to support a family, as specified by the law. Most of these lands were examined in response to applications to make entry, designation being a necessary prerequisite to entry in tracts of 640 acres or less. The designation made in November affects lands in various counties in North Dakota as follows:

THE  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE  
NAVY

NAVY DEPARTMENT

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
JANUARY 1, 1900

TO THE  
HONORABLE  
MEMBERS OF THE  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

THE  
NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



County	Acres
McKenzie	13,384.94
Dunn	18,553.11
Mountrail	80.00
Billings	22,517.30
Slope	5,276.86
Golden Valley	7,822.23
Bowman	7,171.20
	<hr/> 74,805.64

#### ENLARGED HOMESTEAD DESIGNATIONS

About 220,000 acres of land in Montana have been designated under the enlarged-homestead act as being non-irrigable. They are located by counties as follows: Choteau, 95,526; Cascade, 5070; Park, 4,012; Fergus, 2,435; Sweet Grass, 5,605; Yellowstone, 3,980; Custer, 7,320; Valley, 12,980; Dawson, 23,145; Lewis and Clark, 10,015; Teton, 11,340; Jefferson, 3,080; Silverbow, 4,920; Powell, 2,000; Madison, 6,480; Beaverhead, 13,880; and Carbon, 2,550. The remainder is distributed through various other counties in the State. A great part of this land has already been filed upon.

#### COAL CLASSIFICATIONS

During the month of December about 354,000 acres of land were classified as to coal character and the classification transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office as a basis for sale. Over 523,000 acres of land heretofore withdrawn for classification purposes were restored to entry under the coal land laws, the classification having been completed during this or preceding months. Nearly 423,000 acres of these lands are in North Dakota, nearly 89,000 in Montana, and the remainder in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Washington.

#### FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE

From a District Land Office  
to a soldier in France.

Your letter of inquiry to me duly to hand. It would give me personally great pleasure to comply with your request, if I knew of any law whereby a selection made in this office could be held from other application until yours could reach here. But, there is no such law so far as I know, and I am sending your letter to the General Land

10.100.31  
11.10.101  
12.03  
13.115.12  
14.07.04  
15.15.11  
16.11.11  
17.11.11

SWITZERLAND 3/10



Office for advice and direction, a copy of which letter accompanies this one to you. You may be sure that, if there is any law for such application, the General Land Office will instruct this office to act for you, or through some designated agent, and all will be done that can be done. Your country appreciates your services, but it would be exceedingly difficult to make a law (if, indeed not impossible), that would allow such a filing as you suggest. Only, in my judgment, by withdrawing all public land from entry until after the close of the war, could the soldiers be served, and then, not impartially, as some would be mustered out long before others; and many not until every acre would be taken. I say this that you may not be too greatly encouraged in this matter. But, your country will find other ways of rewarding you for your patriotism and bravery. Personally I can appreciate your sacrifice, for I have had one son enlist in the Eng. Av. service, one in the U. S. Navy, and one in the U. S. Army. But the cause -- It is the Sunrise of World DEMOCRACY or the Evening Star of Civilization. And, America must answer which.

From an officer in camp to  
the ladies in the G.L.O.

Your exceedingly kind remembrance package came to me yesterday, and already the contents are placed where they will do the most good. You can't imagine, I'm sure, just how welcome such a package was to me. It showed that you dear folks had not let me pass entirely out of mind, and in addition it gave me something to do some good with. I took the candy and cigarettes and called my boys together in a corner of the barrack room, and distributed them. Then I held a drawing, and the lucky man, holder of the winning ticket, got the sweater. Then I read your note, and slightly changed the wording, so as to make it look as if you knew their names. So, dear friends, back there in the G.L.O., rest assured your favor was indeed appreciated, and such little remembrances go a long way toward making sure that when our boys do get orders to climb over the top, they'll go and go right, with the feeling that America and Americans are with them to the end.

From Paris, France.

This is a great city but quite easy in which to find your way about, if you have a map of it in your pocket to consult. We have no such wide streets and parkings in Washington as here, and in the summer time it must be very beautiful. We had a great time learning the English money, especially to know how much real money we were spending. About the time we began to "get on" to that, we had to unlearn it and try the French, which however is easier. Money is the same the world over, I guess. It does not stay with one very long at a time.





## FEDERAL PROPERTY FOR NATIONAL USE

While the Land Department is not, strictly speaking, a war work bureau, yet it may be interesting to know that it occasionally contributes its mite to furthering the work that has devolved upon the nation as a consequence of the war. Recently a contractor who had contracted to furnish timbers to the Emergency Fleet Corporation for Government shipbuilding purposes, needed white oak timber, and the only white oak trees that he could locate in his part of the country that were of sufficient size, were upon a tract of vacant public land in the State of Florida. The Land Department authorized his going upon the public lands and procuring the timber, upon the condition that he would refund to the Emergency Fleet Corporation the stumpage value of the trees. The timber is being taken for the purpose mentioned, and in this instance portions of the ships will be built of Government timber, for which it will not be charged. There have been several similar cases. Inquiries are also made now and then with reference to the use of Government-owned timber for Government aeroplane construction purposes.

Another instance wherein the Land Department rendered assistance occurred recently. The fuel administrator of one of the western public land States wired for authority to permit the residents of that State to go upon the public lands and take wood for fuel purposes. Inasmuch as such privileges had been accorded to settlers and residents of certain States, including his state, for a number of years, pursuant to the acts of June 3, 1878 (20 Stat., 88) and March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1093), his request was complied with, and he was advised how to proceed in order to effect the immediate relief which he desired.

## NATIONAL PARKS

Secretary Lane has announced that the National Parks will be open this year as usual. Travelers will be carried on the regular trains and will be cared for at the hotels as formerly.

## SCRIP

The word "scrip" is a generic term that has been used to describe various rights under the public land laws of the United States and of various states. Its use as applied to the public lands of the United States was formerly limited to certificates or other written evidence of a right





to select or purchase public land in satisfaction of the scrip. In the past it has been confounded in usage with the term "float" and at present the term scrip is frequently applied to selection rights where no certificate or other written evidence of a right of selection has been issued.

Legislation relating to scrip may be grouped under the subjects, Bounty Land Scrip, Private Land Claim Scrip, and Indian Scrip. Scrip and selection rights have also been granted to States for agricultural colleges and internal improvements. There are also a number of selection rights which are commonly called "scrip", although not evidenced by certificates, which are exercised under acts providing for selections in lieu of land held in private ownership, and under acts granting relief to settlers and entrymen in deserving cases. A review of the legislation relating to scrip will probably be of interest to those in the public land service.

#### Bounty Land Scrip.

From the earliest period of our history, the policy of granting land bounties for military service in time of war and other distinguished services was marked with great liberality, and land bounties were promised at a period prior to the nation's possessing a public domain. As evidence of a right to receive such a right, Congress has usually provided for the issuing of certificates known as military bounty land warrants or scrip.

In early legislation certain tracts in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Missouri were set aside in what were known as military districts, to which the holders of the warrants were restricted in making their locations. Those restrictions were soon withdrawn and the warrants are used as cash in paying for land subject to cash entry or for payments under the commutation provisions of the homestead law, the timber and stone act and the desert land laws and for purchases of isolated tracts. The laws and regulations respecting the assignment, location and use of bounty land warrants are contained in circular No. 120, approved May 24, 1912.

In addition to the general legislation of this character, special acts have been passed authorizing the issue of certificates in evidence of a right of selection or location of public land, as a reward for services of such distinction as to receive individual attention by Congress. Section 4 of the act of March 3, 1803 (2 Stat., 236), authorizing the Secretary of War to issue land warrants to General Lafayette for 11,520 acres, is one of the





early instances of this character and is of historic interest at the present time.

There are outstanding a few certificates which have been issued under special acts as bounties. Certificates to the amount of three sections under each, have been issued under the act of January 25, 1853 (10 Stat., 745), known as McKee scrip, and under the act of February 10, 1855 (10 Stat., 849), known as Gerard scrip. These certificates are locatable on surveyed, non-mineral, unappropriated public land (Instructions of March 14, 1910 (38 L. D., 485)). No fees are required, but publication must be made in accordance with the instructions of February 21, 1906 (36 L. D., 278 and 346). The scrip is assignable and the instructions governing the assignment of military bounty land warrants (circular 120) are applicable.

Private land claim scrip will be made the subject of note and comment in the March number of the Bulletin.

#### FINAL REPORT ON THE RED CROSS CHRISTMAS DRIVE

Mr. A. W. Patterson, Chairman of the Red Cross Christmas Membership campaign for the Interior Department, has closed the drive with this result: New members, 1,858; renewal memberships, 1,579; total, 3,437; magazine subscriptions and contributions, \$479; total amount of money, \$3,916! In this work the Interior Department again holds the distinction of leading all the Executive Departments. Secretary Lane expresses appreciation thereof in a note to Mr. Patterson as follows: "I have just seen your report on the result of the Red Cross drive in this Department. It is a fine showing, and I congratulate you and the members of your committee on your good work."





## ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT WAR WORK ASSOCIATION

Under the daily, personal direction of Mrs. Franklin K. Lane, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, nearly half a thousand women of the Interior Department are using every spare minute sewing, knitting and packing things which will comfort and cheer sick and wounded American soldiers in France.

When the office day ends they hurry from all parts of official Washington to the rooms in Secretary Lane's big building where the Interior Department War Work Association is in continuous session, to turn in finished work and get material for more sweaters, sheets, towels, pajamas, stockings, slippers and the other articles which are packed in big shipping cases, one of which has gone to Neuilly, France, every ten days. And, hereafter, the Association will ship a box every week.

The Interior Department War Work Association is an auxiliary of the American Red Cross. It had its beginning, almost immediately after war with Germany was declared, when the Home Club, which is a social organization of the Department with nearly a thousand members, began planning for relief work. For a time the Association met in the Home Club building, on Jackson Place and in the early days of the movement its output was distributed through the American-French Clearing House. When its activities outgrew the quarters in the Home Club, the work rooms were moved to the Interior Building.

Here Mrs. Lane, surrounded by the wives and daughters of her husband's assistants, commissioners, directors and chiefs, manages an organized patriotism which ramifies into the far north where the Alaskan Engineering Commission is pushing a railroad to reach precious coal deposits; into isolated reservations where the people of the Indian Service are; into the arid plains where the men of the Geological Survey are working; into the depths of coal shafts where the Bureau of Mines' experts gather; into the prairie towns where the men of the General Land Office work; into the green clad irrigation areas where the engineers of the Reclamation Service are constructing canals and ditches; into the mountains and canyons and great forests of the big trees where the rangers and fire fighters of the National Park Service climb the trails, and to the desks and offices of the Bureau of Education, the Pension Bureau, the Patent Office and all the other branches and divisions of the Interior Department.





For the men of the service are back of the women with their money. Thousands of dollars have been pledged and paid and the enthusiasm in the good cause has been so practical in its nature that though the work is only just beyond the state of initial organization, Mrs. Lane has enough funds in hand to endow nineteen beds in the Interior Department Ward of the Washington Hospital at Neuilly.

Every bed calls for a deposit of \$600, and \$200 a year outfits it with all needed garments and linen. To raise funds for beds and to insure their maintenance, the officers and employees of the Department were asked to pledge subscriptions of ten or twenty-five cents each to be paid every month as long as the need for a hospital exists. The first letter calling for pledges went out in the latter part of last July and the responses were so quick, so spontaneous, that within a short time Mrs. Lane had the assurance that the Interior Department ward would be fully equipped and adequately maintained.

The far flung endeavors of the Association started a "drive" for hospital beds by the Alaskan Engineering Commission in September and which, before the last of the following month, resulted in cash subscriptions aggregating \$7,510.86. In the Neuilly Hospital there will be a ward, over the door of which will be a brass tablet bearing the legend "Department of the Interior" and three of the beds will be marked "Department of the Interior, Anchorage, Alaska", and two so marked for Menana and one each for Seward, Turnagain Arm, Matanuska, Talkeetna, and three for Fairbanks. Some of the subscriptions were made by laborers who could not write their names. Other beds will be marked to designate the bureau or Interior Department Branch which "paid for" the bed.

The Makah Indians of the Neah Bay Reservation on the Pacific Coast, in Washington, sent Mrs. Lane 50 little baskets as their contribution to Red Cross work. About that time the Association was considering the advisability of having a general sale of articles such as embroidery and other fancy work to be contributed by women in Washington, but when the Makah Indian baskets came, they gave rise to the idea of having a sale of Indian bead work, baskets, silver work and like articles. So the Indians of the country were notified of the plan and were requested to send in what they could.

The result was a sale of Indian goods at the Home Club, out of which \$1,400 was cleared and the committee decided to use that money for surgical dressings.





The women of the Interior Department in Washington gave a Thanksgiving dinner to 100 soldier boys and, after the dinner, a dance and reception at the Home Club. The expenses were paid from funds secured from volunteer contributions of Interior Department employees in Washington, and, after all expenses had been paid, there remained \$100.00, which was turned over to the War Work Association.

There is nothing of the emotional about the work of the Association. Its activities are characterized by business-like methods which give its rooms the appearance almost of a commercial establishment, for its organization has been effected along strictly practical lines. The results of the first four months of effort appear in the reports made by Mrs. Lane which show that in September, October, November and December, there were made, packed and shipped the following hospital garments and articles: 348 sheets, 552 pillow cases, 132 face and 132 bath towels, 302 suits of pajamas, 114 suits of underwear, 108 day shirts, 56 hospital shirts, 11 bath robes and 2 pairs of slippers. There were also knitted and shipped 216 pairs of woolen socks, 124 sweaters, 92 helmets, 49 scarfs or mufflers and 15 pairs of wristlets.

Besides the garments and other articles there have gone across a large quantity of absorbent cotton, a thousand yards of uncut gauze, 100 rolls of three-inch bandages and 200 rolls of inch bandages. Gift bundles for convalescents leaving the hospital are made up by the Interior women in which are shaving soap and brushes, tooth brushes and powder, wash cloths, combs and brushes and the like and the women of the Pension Bureau clip entertaining stories, jokes, illustrations and other matter from newspapers and magazines and paste them in scrap books to help the sick and wounded boys pass the time away. Of these scrap books over a thousand have "gone across" and the probability is there will be made up and sent over several thousand more. Puzzles, toilet soap and handkerchiefs find their way into the big boxes and every day develops new "first aids" to comfort and cheer the soldiers who will be fortunate enough to be sent to the Interior Department Ward. For instance, hot water bottles now are included among the "comfort-things" that go to Neuilly.

The latest count shows that 937 Interior Department men are in the army and navy, and naturally the Interior Department women have first thoughts for them so, in addition to what is being done for the Neuilly Hospital, over 200 men in the army and navy from the Interior Department have been outfitted. During November and December 163 pairs of socks, 124 sweaters, 29 helmets, 55 scarfs and 106 pairs of wristlets were knitted for Interior Department men in the service.





## HONOR ROLL

The following members of the General Land Office Service are now enrolled for service under the flag, wherever it may go, at home or abroad, on land or sea.

### GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Allen, James H.	Seaman, 2nd class, Naval Reserves.
America, Louis L.	Seaman, 2nd class, Naval Reserves.
Bartley, Searcy	Enlisted in the Navy.
Clarke, Francis J.	Sergeant, Medical Corps, France.
Binley, Walter S.	2nd Lt. Depot Quartermaster, Philadelphia, Pa.
Colburn, Alvin	Capt. 9th Inf. A.E.F. France.
Connolly, Francis J.	1st Lt. Aviation Corps, U.S. Army.
Crawford, William A.	Field Clerk, Office Chief Engr. Officer, A.E.F. France.
Dalton, Richard H.	Field Clerk, Office Chief Engr. Officer, A.E.F. France.
Dinan, Henry K.	Seaman, 2nd class, Naval Reserves.
Farroll, Leo T.	Private, Provisional Ordnance, Depot, Camp Meade, Admiral, Md.
Fenn, Stanley W.	Clerk, Aviation Corps, U. S. Army.
Frederick, Rosco	Private, Detroit, Alabama.
Hamilton, James Y.	Capt. Q.M.R.C., Washington, D.C.
Hathaway, Alvin	Capt. Hdqrs, 162d Inf. A.E.F. France.
Hedges, Floyd E.	Corporal Clerk, A.E.F. France.
Hemmick, Frank S.	2nd Lt. Signal Corps, Langley Field, Fortress Monroe, Va.
Hoffman, Lewis E.	Field Clerk, A.E.F. France.
Kays, Harry L.	1st Lt. Bat."C", 112 Field Art., Camp McClellan, Alabama.
Krattenmaker, Frank	Army Field Clerk, A.E.F. France.
Lakenan, A. C.	Corporal Clerk, A.E.F. France.
Moskowitz, Nelson B.	Private, Ordnance Corps, U.S. Army.
Mullady, C. C.	Seaman, 2nd class, Naval Reserves.
Pendall, Elmer	2d Lt. Co."B" 120th Inf. Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C.
Sullivan, W. M. E.	2d Lt. 6th Reg. Inf. U.S.A., Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.
O'Leary, Arthur A.	Lab. Asst. Medical Corps, Wash. D. C.
Shaver, Charles W.	Seaman, 2nd class, Naval Reserves.
Simonton, F. B. J.	Private, Supply Co., 320th Field Art., Camp Gordon, Ga.
Tucky, Thomas B.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves.
Ritenour, W. H.	Seaman, 2d class, Naval Reserves. Ac- cidentally killed in line of duty.





## OFFICES U. S. SURVEYORS GENERAL

Ames, Edward R.	Drafted
Bedell, Archer W.	1st Lt. N.M. N.G. Santa Vista, Calif.
Ingalls, Walter S.	2d Lt. Co. I, 1st Arizona Infantry
King, Norman L.	Maj. N.M. N.G. Santa Vista, Calif.
Spear, Hiram C.	Officers Training Camp, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

## LOCAL LAND OFFICES

Allen, Kent	Private, Camp Lewis, American Lake, Wash.
Honan, John J.	Officers Training Camp, Presidio, Calif.
Kimball, Edward L.	Private, Aviation Corps.
Kriegh, McKinley W.	25th Railway Engineers, U.S.A. Ayer, Mass.
King, Luther R.	Private, 1st Idaho Hospital Corps.
O'Leary, William	Lt. N. D. National Guard.
Williams, Perry T.	Private (S&T) U. S. Army.

## FIELD SURVEYING SERVICE

Bradford, A. J.	2d Lt. Regular Army, Vancouver, Wash.
Campbell, George R.	Capt. Engr. Officers Reserve Corps, Olympia, Wash.
Collins, John G.	2d Lt. E.O.R.C., American Lake, Wash.
Cronyn, Theodore	Private, 23d Engrs Co. A, Camp Meade, Md.
Harshbarger, Eugene	2d Lt. E.O.R.C. ETC, Ft. Leavenworth, Kans.
Calvin, Elmer D.	Officers Training Camp
Hooper, James C.	Aviation Corps, Austin, Texas.
Horton, A. C. Jr.	1st Lt. E.O.R.C. Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.
Inch, Philip L.	Private, 23d Engrs, Camp Meade, Md.
Johnson, Carl E.	Artillery, Neligh, Nebraska.
Matthews, Thomas B.	1st Lt. E.O.R.C., Ardmore, Okla.
Millrick, Willis J.	25th Engrs, Ayer, Mass.
Nash, William L.	Officers Training Camp, Leon Springs, Texas.
Perkins, Basil C.	23d Engrs, Camp Meade, Md.
Perkins, William C.	23d Engrs, Camp Meade, Md.
Pinkham, Louis H.	2d Officers Training Camp, Presidio, San Francisco, California.
Pray, Winfred A.	Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.
Richardson, G. H.	Capt. EORC, Boise, Idaho.
Ross, Otis	2d Lieut. QMRC Presidio, San Francisco, Calif.
Sawhill, Donald	Corporal, Co. L, 362d Reg. Inf. Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Wash.
Shapecott, Wallace G.	Capt. Art. A.E.E. France.
Streit, C. K.	8th Reserve Engrs, American Lake, Wash.
Swanholm, Carl	Private, Co. "C" 39th Engrs, Ayer, Mass.
Veal, Guy R.	23d Engrs, Camp Meade, Md.
Lytle, Marvin J.	Private, Aviation Corps.
Smith, Albert Jr.	23d Engrs, Fort McDowell, Calif.





## FIELD SERVICE

Armstrong, G. L.	Officers Training Camp, Sheridan, Ill.
Betts, H. V.	Signal Corps, 312th Battalion, Ft. Pike, Ark.
Galbraith, E. C.	1st Lt. Eng. Res. Corps, Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.
McFarren, E. W.	Capt. EORC, 116th Engrs, Camp Green, N. C.
McLeod, J. D.	2d Lt. Camp Upton, Yaphank, L. I.
Presment, A. N.	Officers Training Camp, Niagara, N. Y.
Rush, Clifford A.	2d Lt. Aviation Section, Signal Corps, San Antonio, Texas.
Towner, W. S.	Signal R. C. 312th Battalion, Ft. Pike, Ark.

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All officers are urgently requested to advise the "Land Service Bulletin" as to all employees in their respective offices who become separated from the General Land Office Service through entrance into the Army or Navy, giving the rank of each, the unit in the Army to which they are assigned and military or naval address, if possible. This information is desired in order that the HONOR ROLL may be as complete as possible.

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The sympathy of the whole Land Service went with Commissioner and Mrs. Tallman, on their sad mission last month to the bedside of Mr. Tallman's mother, who, while on a recent visit to her old home at Greenville, Michigan, contracted an illness which resulted in her death on January 7, 1918. She was buried at Otisco Cemetery, near Greenville where she had spent so much of her long and useful life.

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The sudden death of Frank H. Gould, U. S. Surveyor General for California, at San Francisco on January 26, 1918, deprives the Land Service of a high-minded and able official and his home city and state of an honorable, progressive and public-spirited citizen. Mr. Gould was born in Iowa August 29, 1856. He was educated in the public schools of San Jose, California; at the Law College of the State University at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and at the Vanderwallern School of Engineering at San Francisco. He practiced both engineering and law at various times during his long residence in the state of his adoption. On January 27, 1914, Mr. Gould was appointed by President Wilson U. S. Surveyor General of California, which office he held at the time of his death.





## AT HOME AND ABROAD

Since our last issue Mr. Resse P. Fullerton, an old member of the Land Office force at headquarters, but now special agent with headquarters at Santa Fe, New Mexico, said how-do-you-do and good-by, all in one breath on his way back to the field.

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With a few more gray hairs to his credit, and a little more *avoirduois*, but with the same old smile that keeps smiling, J. M. Sheridan, former Chief of our Field Service, but now an attorney of Los Angeles, California, is a right welcome visitor.

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## A YEARLING

This issue marks the close of the first volume of the Bulletin, what do you think of it? Is it worth while? Shall we continue it, or shall we wind it up and fire the editor? Report forthwith.

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## TELL THE BULLETIN

To all local offices and field service employees:

If anything occurs in the public land service which you think should be chronicled, tell us about it. Address all communications to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, "Land Service Bulletin". All communications should be received not later than the 24th of each month for use in the current number.





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